Trade and Industry

21 November 1974 18p

SAFETY OF OFFSHORE STRUCTURES

If you employ men and women the Equal Pay Act is your business

The Equal Pay Act has two simple basic aims:

- to ensure equal pay and conditions for men and women employed on the same or broadly similar work, or work that has been given equal value under a job evaluation scheme.
- to remove discrimination from collective agreements, employers' pay structures and wages orders.

But it may not be so simple for *you* to introduce equal pay; it has to be thought out, costed, planned and negotiated.

The Act took all this into account. Employers were allowed well over five years, from May 1970, when the Act became law, in which to complete their arrangements for introducing equal pay.

This generous transitional period is now drawing to a close.

By 29 December 1975 everyone who employs men and women will have to comply with the Equal Pay Act. And this applies to every firm, no matter how large or small.

what are you doing about it?

If you haven't already started making arrangements for equal pay, you'd be wise to start now. Time is moving on.

If you have any doubts about the full obligations of employers under the Equal Pay Act, you can find out quickly and easily. The Department of Employment has published "A Guide to the Equal Pay Act 1970" and an explanatory leaflet "Equal Pay—What are you doing about it?". These give the addresses of Conciliation and Arbitration Service Regional Managers who can help you with any problems. Either or both of these can be obtained *free* by completing and returning the coupon to:

H.M.S.O. (LS1A), Cornwall House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9NY.

Please send me a copy of:

A Guide to the Equal Pay Act 1970 ..... ☐

Equal Pay—What are you doing about it? ... ☐
(revised 1974)

(*Extra copies can be supplied on request*)

Name _____
(BLOCK CAPITALS, PLEASE)

Position _____

Organisation _____

_____

Address _____

_____

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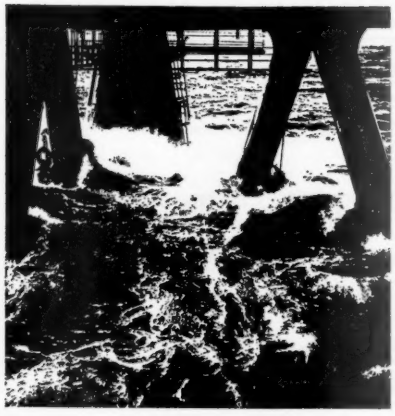
Trade and Industry

21 November 1974

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Heavy seas pound a drilling rig in the North Sea. Not enough is known about the loading induced on offshore structures by wind, waves and currents. As a result the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board is now sponsoring several research programmes. The work of the Board, and one of these projects is described on page 382.

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Home News

How the autumn Budget affects industry and commerce

The autumn Budget 'will help to lay the foundation of a comprehensive strategy for dealing with Britain's economic problems over the next four years,' said Dennis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introducing his Budget speech on 12 November. 'When I addressed the House last March the economic outlook at home was totally uncertain. . . . We now know that Britain has recovered from two months of three-day working with far less damage than seemed likely at the time. . . . But the international uncertainties are in some respects even greater than they were eight months ago.'

The world economy

The Chancellor said that this year the so-called petro-dollar surplus is likely to be of the order of 60 billion dollars. The immediate implications are: first, consumer countries must accept massive deficits on oil account for the time being and must develop a range of measures by which to recycle petro-dollar surpluses. Second, if we add to the cut in demand already imposed by the increase in oil prices a further cut in the belief that this will cure cost-inflation, we shall risk turning 'stagflation' into 'slumpflation'.

There are signs, the Chancellor said, that many other Governments besides our own are coming to recognise the nature of the problem and are treating the risk of mass unemployment more seriously – notably West Germany. Nothing we in Britain do at home can succeed if the world as a whole does not adjust collectively to the impact of the oil price increases. 'For until collectively we come to terms with the challenge it presents, there is grave risk that we shall once again be plunged into a depression on a scale as great as we encountered over 40 years ago.'

Balance of payments

The overall trade deficit is larger than at any time before 1974, although we can take some satisfaction from the reduction this year in non-oil account deficit. Thanks in part to the recent halt in the rise of import prices, it is reasonable to hope that our external deficit on current account this year will be distinctly below the generally predicted figure of £4,000 million.

The Chancellor said that it was difficult to make any meaningful forecast for the year ahead. It is vital that our export costs are not unnecessarily inflated by excessive wage increases. He hoped that more firms would take advantage of export opportunities now opening in oil-producing countries.

The programme of foreign borrowing by the public sector will continue, he said.

The Chancellor announced that the official sterling guarantees will be discontinued when the present arrangements lapse. With the massive recent changes in the international financial situation, the guarantees have lost much of their relevance, he said.

He foresaw no difficulty in financing the current account deficit, but stressed that this does not mean borrowing indefinitely on anything like the present scale.

'I am determined that the balance of payments shall show a continuing and sustained improvement, and this will be a crucial objective of my strategy for the economy over the next four years.'

Principal Budget changes affecting industry and trade

- Official sterling guarantees arrangement to be discontinued
- Hire purchase controls on space heating installations relaxed
- Price Code
  1 Productivity deduction reduced
  2 New relief for investment
  3 Improved profit safeguards
- Corporation Tax
  1 Relief for stock appreciation
  2 Higher initial allowance for industrial buildings
- Company Liquidity
  1 Banks to give priority to lending to industry
  2 Changes in supplementary deposits and special deposit schemes
  3 Substantial expansion of lending by Finance for Industry (FFI)
- Price restraint subsidies in nationalised industries to be phased out as fast as possible
- 100 per cent initial allowance on insulation of industrial Buildings
- VAT at 25 per cent on petrol
- North Sea oil profits: new tax in separate Bill
- Public expenditure: annual average growth to be kept to $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent over the next four years

Medium term objectives

Although there is no cause for complacency North Sea oil makes UK's prospects better than most of our competitors in one key respect. The central problem is to get through the next few years 'without damage to the fabric of our society,' in the meantime correcting major structural weaknesses in the economy. The prime consideration must be 'to make the best and fullest use of the human and material resources we have available.'

A first objective must be to shift resources into exports and investment. Since the war the growth of productivity here has lagged behind most other industrial countries. We have tended to invest less of our annual output in new capacity. We have slipped back in the international league table of living standards, and this has been accompanied by recurring balance of payments difficulties. This trend must be reversed

by devoting a greater proportion of output to exports and investment.

A great majority cannot expect any increase in living standards in the next few years warned the Chancellor. The Government has set itself the target of limiting the growth in public expenditure over the next four years to average rate of $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent a year in demand terms.

The second objective is to mount a national campaign against waste, and above all to adjust national behaviour to the enormous increases in the cost of energy. In particular, our aim must be the elimination of subsidies to the use of energy through artificial nationalised industry prices. Energy prices are only part of a wider problem. We must change the pattern of our private and public spending to take account of other immense changes in world prices.

The third objective must be for Government to manage monetary policy so as to restrain inflationary pressures.

Achievement of these three objectives is a necessary but not sufficient condition for transforming the British economy, said Mr. Healey. We need the ability to deal with the structural weaknesses in particular parts of the economy. The existing instruments are inadequate to cope with the task, he continued. The system of Planning Agreements and the new National Enterprise Board will have an important role in this respect. They will not have their full impact for several years but well before then they should be making a significant contribution towards improvement of industrial performance.

A final element in the Government's approach is the Social Contract. The Government is trying to create a new sort of unity among all sections of the people. In its last period in office the Government demonstrated its commitment by giving priority to pensions, housing and food subsidies. 'This time we must give equal priority to the prevention of mass unemployment – for that has become a danger no less real than inflation.'

The company sector

Measures ensure that the overall level of demand will be sufficient to prevent any danger of mass unemployment in the coming year. However, an immediate threat to employment is posed by the impact of inflation on the company sector.

Inflation has made the operation of price controls far more severe than was originally intended. Also it has increased the cost of replacement stocks to a degree which under present tax rules imposes burdens which industry was never meant to carry.

Circumstances differ widely from firm to firm and ideally one would adopt a selective approach to these problems. But the necessary instruments are in general not available.

Government has a duty to see that firms which are alert and vigorous can be profitable as well. Such firms can only do this if the system of price control and taxation permits. But there are other firms whose failure to make profits is no fault of the system. The Government will make further funds available selectively under the Industry Act for such special cases. The Chancellor said he would also consider accelerated public purchasing where a firm faced purely temporary lack of demand.

At present there are special problems facing firms which make equipment for space heating. Hire purchase controls will be relaxed. The new terms will be a minimum down payment of 10 per cent and a maximum repayment period of five years. The new terms took effect from midnight, 12 November.

Price Code

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had reviewed the Price Code and would publish a consultative document later (see page 369).

It was not right to abolish the Price Code in present circumstances, but there was room for some changes.

The present 50 per cent rate of productivity deduction is to be reduced to 20 per cent for firms with an average proportion of labour costs. Also proposed is a new sliding scale to relate the amount of deduction to proportion of labour costs incurred by specific firms.

New relief for investment – companies will be permitted to recoup in increased prices over a year up to $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the cost of their investment programmes for that year.

There are also new proposals to clarify and improve safeguards in cases where profit margins have been reduced well below April 1973 levels.

The effect on the index of retail pirces of changes should be under 1 per cent compared with the situation under present profit margins.

Corporate taxation

The Chancellor announced that there will be no cut in Corporation Tax and the ACT Supplement is not to be cancelled.

'I am persuaded that industry needs a substantial immediate improvement of its liquidity through the deferment of tax on that part of the profit which corresponds to the abnormal increase in the value of stock and work in progress,' he said and announced that companies will have the right to reduce the closing value of stock and work in progress for accounting periods ending in 1973-74 by the amount by which the increase in the book value of stocks exceeds 10 per cent of trading profits. 'In other words the maximum profit represented by the increase in the value of stocks on which tax will be payable this year will be limited to 10 per cent of the trading profit.' (see page 369).

The figure of 10 per cent was chosen because it broadly corresponds to the proportion of profits attributable to average stock value increase in a normal year.

This means postponement of tax liability not exemption but the need for relief in 1975-76 may be even greater in view of abnormal stock appreciation arising in this year's profits. For practical reasons immediate relief will apply only to companies with closing stocks of at least £25,000. For the same reason, it is not possible to include individual traders or partnerships this year but next year's relief will take account of the fact that it is in respect of two year's trading and that they will have had to wait for it.

The Chancellor said he hoped to have the report of the Committee on Accounting for Inflation (Sandilands Committee) in deciding what action to take next year.

He proposed to increase from 40 per cent to 50 per cent the initial allowance given for industrial buildings.

Broadly speaking the effect of these changes in the Price Code will increase profitability by some £800 million in 1975 and the effect of corporate tax changes will improve liquidity by nearly £800 million this winter.

Company finance

'. . . the improvement in liquidity improves creditworthiness so that companies are more ready to borrow and banks to lend, than they were before,' said Mr. Healey.

The Governor of the Bank of England would stress that banks must give highest priority to lending to industry. Monetary policy will ensure that this is possible. The Governor was also announcing terms on which supplementary special deposits will be rolled forward for a further period.

Banks and financial institutions have agreed to enable Finance for Industry (FFI) to make available substantial medium term funds to industry for productive investment. The amount should be some £1,000 million over the next two years (see page 370).

'This is essentially an extension of facilities already available under normal commercial arrangements through the private banking system,' said the Chancellor. 'It does not of course in any way pre-empt decisions the Government may take to establish new facilities for financing companies on different terms in the context of its proposals for the regeneration of British industry.'

Banks will be released from voluntary undertaking to forego interest on a proportion of their special deposits. 'I believe that the measures I have just announced to help company profitability, liquidity and finance will ensure that the private sector will be able to play its full role in our mixed economy,' the Chancellor said.

Nationalised industry prices

Revenue support for the nationalised industries is now running at over £1,000 million a year.

'. . . to provide large subsidies for the prices of energy runs completely counter to our national objectives on energy conservation and energy policy generally. . .' said the Chancellor. 'I have set it as my objective to phase out these subsidies completely as fast as possible. I cannot now anticipate specific measures which will be needed.' These will be in a large part for the industries themselves, subject of course to the jurisdiction of the Price Commission and the Ministers concerned. 'It will be painful and disagreeable to carry this policy through, even step by step, but I believe that the future health and efficiency of the public sector depends on our success.'

Energy conservation

Mr. Healey announced that the Secretary of State for Energy would make a statement on other aspects of energy conservation before the end of the month.

Meanwhile, the initial allowance for expenditure on insulation of industrial buildings will be increased from 40 per cent to 100 per cent.

There will be a new rate of VAT (25 per cent) on petrol 'as a means of discouraging its wasteful use'. This will not apply to DERV or liquefied petroleum gas (see page 370).

The normal VAT credit mechanism applies thus avoiding the burden on industry which would have occurred if oil duty had been increased. The yield of the new rate is calculated at £200 million in a full year and will add about 0.55 per cent to the RPI.

'There will be legislation in a separate Bill, entitled the Oil Taxation Bill, to impose the new tax on the profits of the oil companies from the Continental Shelf.' This was foreshadowed by the Secretary of State for Energy in his White Paper of 11 July 1974 (*Trade and Industry*, 18 July, page 117).

Economic effects of the Budget

The Chancellor summarised the economic benefits of the Budget as follows:

Financial benefit to companies next year from Price Code relaxations and relief of corporation tax on stocks will be about £1½ billion.

Total output forecast will rise by some 2 per cent per annum over the period ahead. This may mean some modest rise in unemployment – but the level is expected to remain well below 1 million.

Measures are expected to increase RPI by a little over 1½ per cent by the middle of next year. 'If we are to correct the large structural distortions which have affected our economy over recent years – with too much going into consumption and too little into investment and exports – it is inevitable that from time to time steps will be taken which will raise consumer prices.'

Measures will increase public sector borrowing requirement this year by about £800 million, but this will be matched by corresponding reduction in borrowing needs of industry. The increase should not, therefore, be judged in the same way as an increase undertaken to stimulate consumption. Total public sector borrowing requirement of £6,300 million is a 'disturbingly large figure which one would never accept under normal circumstances. But in present circumstances if I had made an attempt to close it – whether by cuts in public expenditure or increases in taxation – the result could only have been a large fall in our national output and a massive increase in unemployment' – given that a large balance of payments deficit is inevitable in present circumstances.

It was difficult, the Chancellor said, to achieve a balance between five objectives

full employment
economic growth
social justice
stable prices
external equilibrium

Swingeing increases in taxation or indiscriminate cuts in public expenditure would be a recipe for mass unemployment. As it is – 'the expected shortfall in demand coupled with the capacity of our economy gives all the scope which could conceivably be needed for a substantial growth of exports.'

'As it is, I have struck a balance which I dare say will satisfy nobody completely. But I believe that in our present situation it provides a sound foundation for that fundamental reconstruction of our economy which we need.'

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1974, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

£2.40 (*by post* £2.57).

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HMSO BOOKS

Consultative document on Price Code review

The Government's proposals for a review of the Price Code were published on 12 November, in a Consultative Document (Cmnd 5779) presented to Parliament by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. They were referred to by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget Statement.

The Consultative Document is in two Parts: Part I describes the background to the review of the Price Code and sets out the Government's major proposals which are to be the subject of consultations; Part II gives a detailed explanation of the proposed amendments to the Price Code and contains a draft of the revised Code.

The Consultative Document (paragraph 7) makes clear the Government's view that the Price Code and Price Commission should continue to exercise effective control over price increases and profit margins. However, major changes to the Code are proposed in relation to:

1 a new scheme of relief for investment (paragraphs 8-10 of the Consultative Document);

2 the productivity deduction which is applied to increases in labour costs (paragraphs 11-13);

3 the safeguard for distributors (paragraphs 14-15);

4 the safeguards for manufacturing and service enterprises (paragraph 16);

5 nationalised industry prices (paragraphs 17-19).

Other proposals for substantial changes to the Code and associated Orders are summarised in paragraphs 20 and 21 of the Consultative Document.

Following the announcement on 11 July of arrangements for reviewing the Price Code, a great many representations were received and extensive consultations held with representative organisations and individual firms during the period leading up to the publication of the Consultative Document.

The Government are now required under Section 2 of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973 to consult appropriate representative organisations about the proposed amendments to the Price Code. It is the Government's intention that the revised Code and associated Orders should be brought into operation as early in December as possible. Organisations wishing to contribute to the consultations should therefore address any comments in writing to arrive not later than 27 November, to:

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Prices Policy Division 1, Room 532B, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

For further information about the practical arrangements for the consultation ring: 01-215 5743 or 01-215 5057 (direct lines).

Corporation Tax: relief for stock

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget Speech proposed some relief from corporation tax in respect of increases in the value of stock in trade.

The legislation will be included in the forthcoming Finance Bill. This note sets out some details of the proposals: the term 'stock' is to be taken throughout as including work in progress.

The relief will relate to accounting periods ending in the Financial Year 1973 (the year ending 31 March 1974). It will therefore affect the corporation tax which, so far as most companies are concerned, falls due on 1 January 1975.

If, in exceptional cases, a company's accounting period ending in the Financial Year 1973 is not for a period of 12 months, or is not the only accounting period ending in that year, or is not a period of accounts, special provisions will be included in the Finance Bill to give a fair measure of relief.

The relief will extend to such part of the increase in the stock valuation over the period as exceeds 10 per cent of trading profits. For this purpose trading profits will be treated as the trading income for the accounting period as ascertained for tax purposes but before the deduction of any capital allowance or losses. If this figure of trading profits is negative, the company will be regarded for the purpose of the relief as having 'nil' profits, so that the whole of any increase in the valuation will qualify for relief.

The relief will normally be given by reducing for tax purposes the closing value of the stock and thus the taxable profits of the trade. If this reduction should result in the creation or augmentation of a loss for tax purposes, the amount of this loss will qualify for relief.

Relief is to be given only where the stock in trade at the end of the period to be taken into account is at least £25,000.

No relief is proposed for work in progress of a professional nature, or for securities (including stocks and shares) held as stock in trade.

Normally the relief will be granted by reference to the valuations of the stock in trade, including work in progress, on the basis currently acceptable for tax purposes, with the following modifications:

where payments on account have been received in respect of contracted work in progress, the valuations are to be reduced by those payments on account when calculating the relief

any duties of Customs or Excise included in the value of the stock will be excluded from the values used for calculating the relief.

The relief will not have the force of law until the Finance Bill has received Royal Assent and no refunds of tax already paid will be possible until then. The Revenue will however make administrative arrangements wherever possible to enable companies to obtain the benefit of immediate relief on a provisional basis.

Any company which considers that it is entitled to relief should therefore send a claim, with a computation of the relief due, in the form shown in Appendix II to the Inspector of Taxes as soon as possible. Where the liability has been agreed, but the full amount of tax has not been paid, the amount to be paid will be reduced to take account of the relief which the Inspector provisionally agrees is due. Where the assessment is under appeal, the tax not in dispute which is to be paid on account may be revised to allow for the relief due. Companies whose accounting period is not for a period of 12 months (see above) should await publication of the Finance Bill and then consult their Inspector of Taxes.

APPENDIX I

Example

A company has an accounting period of 1 January 1973 to 31 December 1973. Its opening stock at 1 January 1973 is valued at £130,000, its closing stock on 31 December 1973 at £145,000. It has trading income, before capital allowances, of £70,000.

Under the Chancellor's proposals the relief due is the amount by which the closing stock exceeds the opening stock (ie, £15,000) less 10 per cent of £70,000 (ie, £7,000) = £8,000. The relief is given by way of a reduction in the closing stock from £145,000 to £137,000, as illustrated below.

Before relief	£		£
Opening stock	130,000	Sales	400,000
Purchases	325,000	Closing stock	145,000
Expenses for tax purposes	20,000		
Trading income (before capital allowances)	70,000		
	£545,000		£545,000
After relief			
Opening stock	130,000	Sales	400,000
Purchases	325,000	Closing stock	137,000
Expenses	20,000		
Revised trading income for tax purposes (before capital allowances)	62,000		
	£537,000		£537,000

APPENDIX II

Form of presentation of claim

Accounting period from		to
Closing valuation of stock		
less adjustments as set out in paragraph 9 above (if any)		
Opening valuation of stock		
less adjustments as set out in paragraph 9 above (if any)		
Net increase in stock value		
Trading income for the period		
add capital allowances and losses deducted in arriving at income		
Deduct 10 per cent of		
Net relief due on		

Finance for industry

The Bank of England and the London and Scottish Clearing Banks, together with Finance for Industry Ltd., (FFI), whose shareholders they are, have made arrangements in co-operation with a range of other financial institutions to expand that company's capacity to provide medium-term finance for investment by British industry.

The purpose of these arrangements is to assure British industry that funds are available from the private financial institutions for the finance of productive investment pending a restoration of a flow of funds through the wider capital market. It is envisaged that the expansion of FFI's business could amount to up to £1,000 million over a period of two years or so.

FFI is the parent company of the Finance Corporation for Industry Ltd., (FCI), the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation Ltd., (ICFC) and certain other companies. The expansion of activity now planned will be handled by FCI which is concerned with business coming from the larger companies. Funds will be available mainly in the form of medium-term loans at variable or fixed rates of interest subject to strict criteria of commercial viability. ICFC will continue to provide capital, financial advice and other services to small and medium-sized companies.

The shareholders of FFI have agreed to subscribe additional equity capital as necessary to support the expansion of business; and to enlarge their lending facilities to FFI to the extent necessary to secure the intended expansion.

The Governor of the Bank of England has obtained from a range of other financial institutions assurances that they stand ready to provide substantial funds for viable investment by British industry through periodic subscriptions to issues of fixed interest stock by FFI.

Sterling guarantee arrangements

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in his Budget Statement that the guarantee of certain official sterling balances will be discontinued when the present arrangements expire on 31 December.

Guarantees were first introduced in September 1968 in the form of Sterling Agreements between HMG and individual official holders. These Agreements expired on 24 September 1973 and were succeeded by a six-month guarantee extended on the basis of a unilateral declaration by HMG. The present nine-month guarantee was introduced on 1 April.

Whereas the Sterling Agreements set no upper limit to the amounts guaranteed, the six-month guarantee set a ceiling on the amount of sterling guaranteed by reference to eligible balances on 24 September 1973. Implementation was to be effected on the lower of eligible balances on that date and on the last working day of March 1974. This feature was continued into the present arrangement with the last working day of December 1974 as a third upper limit. The nine-month guarantee also changed the basis of the arrangement from the exchange rate of sterling against the US dollar to the effective depreciation of sterling from Smithsonian parities.

Under the terms of the present guarantee compensation becomes payable, providing minimum required holdings are maintained, if the average effective depreciation of sterling from Smithsonian parities over the period from 1 April to 31 December 1974 is greater than the guarantee rate of 18.35 per cent (the average effective depreciation of sterling over the period of the six-month guarantee). Over the period from 1 April to 11 November the average effective depreciation was 17.58 per cent.

Implementation of the guarantee which expired on 31 March 1974 is now nearly complete. Compensation totalling some £80 million became payable in respect of a fall in the exchange rate for sterling against the US dollar from the guarantee rate of $2.4213 to $2.3335, this being the average rate over the period from 25 September 1973 to 31 March 1974.

The Sterling Agreements of 1968 were explained in the White Paper 'The Basle Facility and the Sterling Area', Cmnd. 3787. The texts of most of the Agreements were set out in Cmnds 3834, 3835, 4176, 4224 and 4415.

Gregor MacKenzie Department of Industry Minister responsible for small firms, is seen (right) at the Nottingham Small firms Information Centre, which mounted last week the first 'Finance for smaller business' exhibition. Mr. B. J. Swann, the assistant regional general manager of Lloyds Bank – one of the 20 exhibitors – is in the centre of the picture, and on the left is E. T. Watson, the Department of Industry's East Midlands regional director. The two characters in the background are glued to Lloyds' display panel because they are part of it. A programme of talks and seminars on the theme 'Finance for profit' was held in conjunction with the exhibition.

VAT at 25 per cent on petrol

In his Budget Speech the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that VAT at the rate of 25 per cent is to be applied to petrol. Derv and gas used as road fuel remain taxable at the standard rate of 8 per cent. This change came into force on 18 November.

Tax at 25 per cent will be chargeable on the following:

1 light hydrocarbon oil on which hydrocarbon oil duty at the full rate has been paid or is payable, except light oil put up for sale as fuel for mechanical lighters in containers of a capacity not exceeding 20 fluid ounces (one pint). Oils chargeable at the 25 per cent rate include motor spirit (petrol) and aviation spirit;

2 petrol substitutes (ie liquids intended to take the place of petrol as road fuel);

3 power methylated spirits;

Derv, gas for use as road fuel and mechanical lighter fuel in containers of a capacity not exceeding one pint remain chargeable with VAT at the standard rate.

VAT on petrol used in the course of their business by persons registered for VAT may be deducted as input tax subject to the normal VAT conditions; and small businesses not at present required to be registered can apply for voluntary registration. Private persons, however, will not be able to reclaim the tax on petrol used for example in cars, boats, or private aeroplanes.

Details of the new 25 per cent rate on petrol are given in Public Notice No. 744. Copies of this have been sent to every trader registered for VAT purposes.

The VAT fraction applicable to the 25 per cent rate which has to be used in calculating VAT from tax-inclusive amounts is one-fifth. A separate Public Notice No. 743 is being issued for the guidance of retailers using special schemes.

There is no change affecting those hydrocarbon oils which hitherto have been zero-rated; these include domestic central heating oil, paraffin and lubricating oils.

Advance factory building programme doubled next year

A new double size programme of advance factory building was announced on 14 November by Eric Heffer, Minister of State for Industry. The factories will be built on land already owned by the Department of Industry to provide work quickly for the construction industry.

In answer to a written Parliamentary Question from Mr. Roy Hughes (Newport) Mr. Heffer said:

'£6 million of the sum allocated to the Department by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 11 September will be devoted to the building of new advance factories and to increasing the size of some of those announced in September this year. A further £2 million is to be spent on modernisation and site development and other works, and £1 million on acquiring land for further programmes of factories. The new factories will be constructed on land already in the Department's possession in order to provide work quickly for the construction industry.

This programme will be additional to the normal programme of advance factory building. As a result, it is planned that the total building of advance factories in the coming year will be twice the normal size.

The list of sites and sizes is as follows:

FACTORY SITES AND SIZES

	Number of factories	Size of factory	
		sq. m.	sq. ft.
ENGLAND			
Northern Region			
Cramlington	1	2,323	25,000
Thornaby	1	2,323	25,000
Lilleyhall	1	2,323	25,000
Team Valley	1	2,323	25,000
Houghton-le-Spring	1	1,393	15,000
Consett	1	1,393	15,000
Tynemouth	2	1,393	15,000
Ashington	1	929	10,000
Cleator Moor (I)	1	465	5,000
North-West Region			
Bromborough	1	2,323	25,000
Knowsley	1	2,323	25,000
Knowsley	3	1,393	15,000
St. Helens	1	1,393	15,000
Wigan	2	929	10,000
Nelson	1	929	10,000
Yorkshire and Humberside Region			
Hull	1	1,393	15,000
Hull	1	929	10,000
Barnsley	2	929	10,000
Bridlington	1	929	10,000
SCOTLAND			
Dundee	1	2,323	25,000
Queenslie	1	2,323	25,000
Shieldhall	1	2,323	25,000
Kirkcaldy	1	929	10,000
Port Glasgow	1	929	10,000
Cumnock	1	929	10,000
Motherwell	1	929	10,000
Germiston	1	929	10,000
Edinburgh	1	929	10,000
Inchinnen (I)	1	929	10,000
Bothwell Park (I)	1	929	10,000
Coatbridge (I)	1	929	10,000
Ayr (I)	1	1,393	15,000
WALES			
Waterton	1	2,787	30,000
Hirwaun	1	2,323	25,000
Bridgend	1	2,323	25,000
Rogerstone	1	2,323	25,000
Pontardulais	1	929	10,000
Gwauncaegwren	1	929	10,000

(I) Increase in size of factories announced on 11 September.

Note

The prime purpose of this programme is to provide assistance to the construction industry, but at the same time the programme carries forward the development of the Government's regional employment policies by ensuring that multi-purpose factories are available in areas of high unemployment for early occupation by industrialists. Advance factories remain an attractive element in the range of incentives available to industrialists in the assisted areas. The factories will be available for purchase or rent through the agency of the English, Scottish or Welsh Industrial Estates Corporations who act as agents for the Department in factory building and estate management.

Since 1945, 622 advance factories have been authorised, providing some 53,000 jobs in the assisted areas. The latest programme of factories may be expected to provide some 2,650 jobs when fully occupied. This number may be much higher as tenant firms generally expand their space.

Professor Dr. Alfred Rau (right), deputy director-general of the Ministry of Coal and Power in East Berlin, is shown protective clothing for use in British nuclear power stations and laboratories during his visit to Oldbury nuclear power station. With him is Victor Brown, the station's superintendent. Professor Rau was on a visit to Britain as a guest of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He was particularly interested in Britain's development of the steam generating heavy water reactor.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842.

Tony Benn's statement on George Kent Limited

The following statement was made on 14 November by Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry:

'In my statement of 22 October 1974, announcing that I proposed to vote in favour of the Brown Boveri scheme, I indicated that I intended to explore the best means for ensuring a sound future for the scientific and medical instrument activities of the George Kent group, which were to be hived off into a separate company, Scientific and Medical Instruments Ltd., under the proposals.

'I have recently been informed by the directors of Kent that the financial position of the companies which will comprise SMI has deteriorated to the extent that they would face difficulties soon after SMI had been established as an independent company.

'In view of the importance of the SMI companies in the scientific and medical instrument industry, I have agreed (subject to the Brown Boveri scheme becoming effective) to make available assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 in the form of a bank guarantee to enable SMI to continue in business normally while arrangements are worked out to meet its longer term requirements.'

Honeywell redundancies in Scotland

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, and Albert Booth, Minister of State, Department of Employment, discussed with James Hamilton, MP, on 15 November the grave situation created by the decision by Honeywell to declare 1,150 workers redundant at Newhouse, Bellshill and Uddingston without any warning or notice, made worse by the failure of the company to enter into meaningful discussions with the union at top level about the reasons for the decision and alternatives that might be considered.

The two Ministers agreed that the behaviour of Honeywell was completely irresponsible because there had been no prior consultation with the union or the Department of Employment.

They also agreed to invite the company to make a full disclosure to the unions and, on

the basis of that full disclosure, to begin serious talks at top level on both sides with the unions directly, or with the participation of the Government, or under the chairmanship of the independent Conciliation and Arbitration Service, to resolve the situation and help to make the best arrangements for alternative work.

Second advance factory for Barnsley...

Work has started on the construction of a 10,000 sq. ft. advance factory at the Carlton Road Industrial Estate, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

A contract for building this factory, which was designed by English Industrial Estates Corporation staff, has been awarded to Bramall and Ogden Ltd., of Mexborough. The project architects are Sir Charles Nicholson and Rushton and the quantity surveyors, Turner and Townsend of Leeds.

It is anticipated that the factory will be completed by May 1975.

This factory is the second Government advance factory to be built in Barnsley. The first was occupied in October last year by Al-Ko (Britain) Ltd. who manufacture and assemble small concrete mixers, gardening and do-it-yourself equipment.

. . . and another for Tredegar

The Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation say that construction of a factory, in advance of demand, has started at Sirhowy Hill in the Tredegar area. This is the second advance factory to be built in this locality. The factory will cover 25,000 sq. ft. and should be completed in August 1975.

Architects are Wallis, Gilbert, Wolstenholme and Partners, Cardiff; the quantity surveyors are E. C. Harris and Partners, Treforest, and the building contractors are C. Price and Son Ltd., Abergavenny.

Cumbernauld factory for US Corporation

I.U. Valve Systems International Ltd., a subsidiary of the US Corporation, I.U. International, have announced plans to establish their first Scottish operation in Cumbernauld.

The initial project, which will be accommodated in an advance Corporation factory of 20,000 sq. ft. will be in operation before the end of the year and will provide employment for 30 men in the skilled process of the manufacture of valve actuators. The company expect the operation to expand rapidly and foresee an eventual workforce in excess of 100.

The group's operations have been expanding in the UK and the Basingstoke UK company now serves not only the home market but also exports throughout Europe and Asia. The Cumbernauld operation will supply all these markets with a substantial proportion of the equipment being directed to the company's ever-growing market in oil and gas industries in the North Sea.

More expansion at Cramlington

The English Industrial Estates Corporation is building a 42,000 sq. ft. extension to the premises occupied by Ronson Products Ltd., on the Bassington Industrial Estate, Cramlington. Ronson need the 50 per cent additional space to meet the increasing demand for shavers, hairdryers and automatic toothbrushes in markets throughout the world.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
28 October 1974		
1,088,341	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Pulse signal exchange
1,263,838	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Cleaning arrangement for an ink jet printer
1,290,415	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Colouring cables
1,293,980	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Ink jet printer pen unit
1,302,919	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Cables
1,198,485	Electroaoustic GmbH	Method and apparatus for enabling bringing a trawl to a shoal of fish found by echo sounding
1,261,488	Creed and Co. Ltd.	A gear shifting arrangement using a reversible geneva drive
1,318,058	H. Viessman	Improvements in or relating to boilers
1,318,641	Luis Ramirez Zamorano	Method of pressing connector members on to elongate structural elements
1,318,642	Luis Ramirez Zamorano	Method and apparatus for pressing connector members on to elongate structural elements
6 November 1974		
1,086,282	Licentia Patent-Verwaltungs-GmbH	Binary-coded decimal code scale
1,186,002	Dowty Mining Equipment Ltd.	Fluid-flow control valve
1,219,965	Societe Legris et Fils	Intergrated fluid circuit programmer
1,327,075	Hans Viessmann	Improvements in or relating to boilers
1,346,869	Kason Hardware Corporation	The manufacture of moulded wall panels
1,346,870	Kason Hardware Corporation	Panel hook fastener

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

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It was in 1967 that Ronson Products Ltd., first set up a production unit at Cramlington in a 25,000 sq. ft. advance factory to manufacture a range of electrical products. The company very quickly occupied a second advance factory of similar size and over the past seven years has steadily expanded – both factories have been extended and linked giving a total area of 110,000 sq. ft. in which nearly 800 people are employed.

Work has just started and when the building is completed next summer it is expected that a further 200 people will be employed.

More advance factories in East Kilbride

Work has started in East Kilbride on a contract for the building of 19 Development Corporation advance factories which will provide another 8,000 sq. m. (approx. 86,000 sq. ft.) of industrial space for companies moving into the new town. In employment terms they represent nearly 300 job opportunities.

The project, costing £685,000, including roads and drainage, increases the total area of advance factories currently under construction by the Corporation to 20,250 sq. m. (218,000 sq. ft.). To date, 165,305 sq. m. (1,779,400 sq. ft.) of advance factories have been completed in East Kilbride.

The latest instalment of advance factory units, being built in the Kelvin Industrial Estate, range in size from 200 sq. m. (approx. 2,000 sq. ft.) to 1,250 sq. m. (13,450 sq. ft.). The contractors are Melville, Dundas and Whitson, of Glasgow.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the proposed merger between Robert Fleming Investment Trust Ltd., and Robert Fleming Holdings Ltd., to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Joint airworthiness requirements

A joint airworthiness code is to be formulated by the Airworthiness Authorities of seven European countries and the Airworthiness Committee of AECMA (Association Européenne des Constructeurs de Matériel Aérospatial) representing the European Aerospace Industry. The main objectives of this work are to avoid a proliferation of different airworthiness codes within Europe, to facilitate the import and export of aviation products, and to ease the certification of projects shared between two or more countries. The countries involved are Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The Joint Airworthiness Requirements (JAR) are recognised by the Civil Airworthiness Authorities of participating countries as an acceptable basis for showing compliance with their national airworthiness codes, except in a limited number of cases where one or more participating countries have declared National Variants. It is also accepted that, except where National Variants have been declared, there is an interpretation of JAR requirements which provides equivalence with national codes as currently interpreted.

In addition, the Civil Airworthiness Authorities of the participating countries will consider future adoption of the JAR as their national requirements.

Appropriate existing airworthiness codes are selected to form the basis of the JAR which are presented as variations upon and additions to the Basic Code. The JAR are in consequence only complete when read in conjunction with their Basic Code.

JAR-E, covering engines for aeroplanes, was published on 15 September 1972, and JAR-P, covering propellers, was published on 1 December 1973, both of these being based on Section C of British Civil Airworthiness Requirements.

JAR-APU covering the approval of Auxiliary Power Units was published on 15 May 1974 and is based on TSO (Technical Standard Order) C77 issued by the Federal Aviation Administration of the United States of America.

JAR-25 covering large aeroplanes is based on Part 25 of the Federal Aviation Regulations of the United States of America. Subparts C – Structures, D – Design and Construction and E – Powerplant Installations, of JAR-25, were published on 1 August 1974. The remainder of the Sub-parts of JAR-25 will be published as they become available.

Copies of JAR and of BCAR Section C can be obtained from the Civil Aviation Authority, Printing and Publication Services, Greville House, 37 Gratton Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester, at the following prices:

JAR-E	Engines	50p
JAR-P	Propellers	50p
JAR-APU	Auxiliary power units (including basic code)	£1.00
JAR-25	Large aeroplanes	£2.00*
	Section C – Engines	£2.00

FAR Part 25 can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, USA Government Printing Office, Washington DC 20409.

* Price includes the first three Sub-parts of Section 1 and 2 (the variations upon, and additions to, the Basic Code) together with the four other Sub-parts to complete Sections 1 and 2, when they are published.

ECGD addresses

The Export Credits Guarantee Department's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel. 01-606 6699). ECGD has 10 local offices in various parts of the United Kingdom, and these are listed from time to time in *Trade and Industry*.

Findings of 'Gaul' inquiry

The report of the Court relating to the Formal Investigation into the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of the Hull trawler *Gaul* will be read at 2 pm today (21 November), at the Victoria Galleries, City Hall, Hull.

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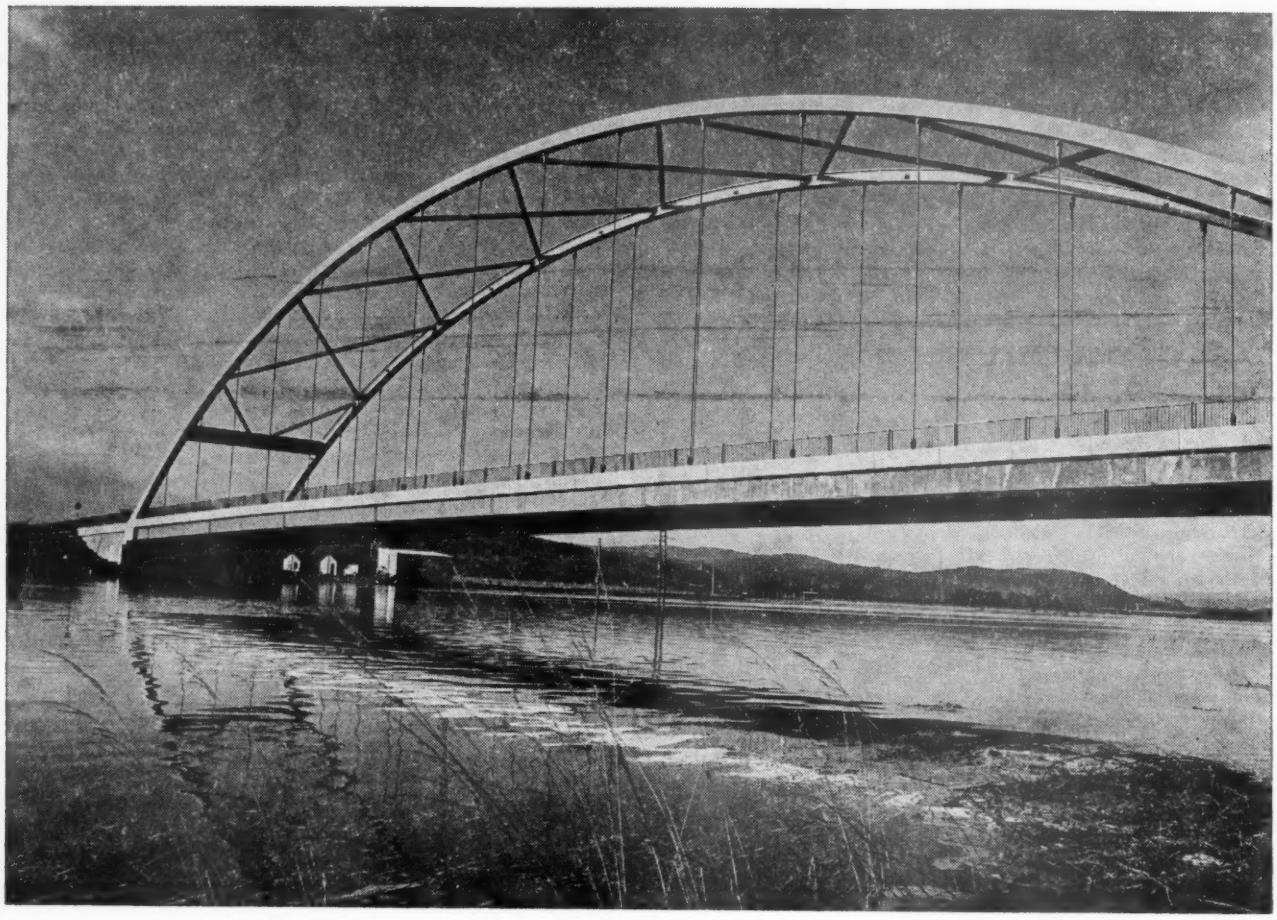


SCOTT LITHGOW

Structural steel design awards

Nineteen seventy-four was a vintage year in the Structural Steel Design Awards Scheme, say the British Steel Corporation. The standard of entries was so high that the judges had extreme difficulty in selecting the award winners from a very long 'short' list. They felt that three other structures were so good that they asked for them to be specially commended – the first time that this has been done.

The objectives of the scheme are '. . . to recognise the high standards of structural and architectural design attainable in the use of steel and its potential in terms of efficiency, economy, aesthetics and innovation'. The awards scheme began in 1969. It is sponsored by BSC and the British Constructional Steelwork Association, and administered by CONSTRADO (The Constructional Steel Research and Development Organisation). The awards were presented by Lord Goodman on 12 November.

The awards are stainless steel plaques for mounting on award-winning structures. A stainless steel trophy and certificate is presented to the architects and structural engineers and certificates are awarded to the steelworks contractors.

The six award-winning structures (three are pictured here) are:

Head office at Halifax for the Halifax Building Society (architects and structural engineers: Building Design Partnership; steelwork contractor: Robert Watson and Co. (Constructional Engineers) Ltd.). The judges commented: '. . . a practical combination of steel and concrete to provide an economical solution.' This building was also featured on the cover of our 24 October issue.

225 ton Goliath crane at Kingston Shipbuilding Yard, Port Glasgow for Lithgows Ltd. (structural engineers and steelwork contractors, Clark Chapman – John Thompson Ltd., Sir William Arrol Branch). '. . . a high standard of design . . . efficient and economic . . . clean and elegant . . .'

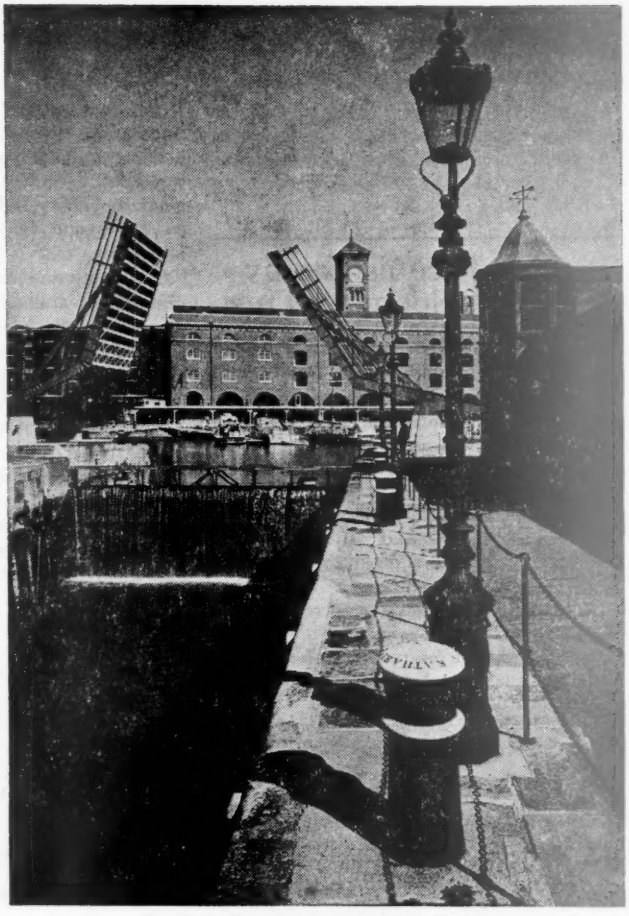
The National Motor Museum at Beaulieu, Hants (architects: Leonard Manasseh and Partners; structural engineers: Felix J. Samuely and Partners; steelwork contractor: Dibben Structural Engineers).

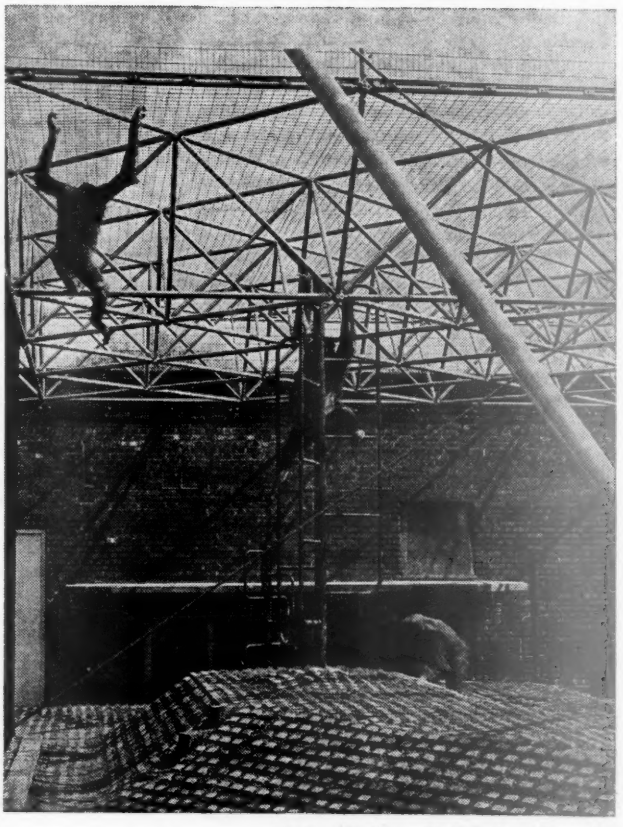
St. Katharine-by-the-Tower inner lifting bridge at St. Katharine Docks, London for Taylor Woodrow Property Co. (structural engineers: Ove Arup and Partners; steelwork contractors: Boulton and Paul (Steel Construction) Ltd. and Mole-Richardson (Stage and Studio Engineering) Ltd.) – 'This moving bridge is simple, functional and matches its attractive setting . . . a cleverly designed structure'.

Flower market at New Covent Garden Market, Nine Elms, London (architects: Gollins, Melvin, Ward and Partners; structural engineers: Clarke, Nicholls and Marcel; steelwork contractor: Dawnays Ltd.). '. . . a delightful building . . . entirely appropriate and in sympathy with the delicate nature of the trade it encloses.'

Bonar Bridge on the A9, Kyle of Sutherland, for the Scottish Development Department (structural engineers: Crouch and Hogg; steelwork contractors; Redpath Dorman Long (Contracting) Ltd.). – 'An elegant major structure which although visible from a distance, does not overwhelm its immediate environment.'

The commended structures are the Bletchley Leisure Pool at Milton Keynes, Bucks, the Michael Sobell Pavilions at London Zoo and the Melrose Centre at Milton Keynes.





Page 374 (top): the Bonar Bridge, carrying the A9 over the Kyle of Sutherland.

Page 374 (bottom): Goliath crane at Port Glasgow.

Top right: Lifting bridge at St. Katherine Docks, London.

Bottom right: The Michael Sobell Pavilion for apes and monkeys at London Zoo received a commendation.

Proposed acquisition by NFU Development Trust of FMC

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided to refer the proposed acquisition by the NFU Development Trust Ltd., of FMC Ltd., to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for investigation and report under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973. The Commission are being required to make their report within six months.

The decision to make a reference to the Commission does not in any way prejudge the questions whether or not there is a merger situation qualifying for investigation or if so, whether or not the merger concerned is contrary to the public interest. It is for the Commission to report on these questions after investigation.

The Fair Trading Act 1973 empowers the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to investigate proposed and actual mergers following a reference by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. The Commission are required to investigate and report to the Secretary of State whether or not there is or will be a merger situation qualifying for investigation and if so whether the merger operates or may be expected to operate against the public interest.

Section 75 of the Act enables the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to make a merger reference where it appears to her that it is or may be the fact that a merger which creates or intensifies a 'monopoly' or involves the take-over of a company with assets of a value that exceeds £5 million is in progress or in contemplation.

The proposed acquisition by NFU Development Trust Ltd., of FMC Ltd., is being referred under the 'size of assets' criterion of the Act.

'T & I' subscriptions and sales

Subscriptions and sales inquiries about *Trade and Industry* should be directed to HMSO at any of the following addresses: 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB; 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AR; Brazennose Street, Manchester M60 8AS; 258 Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2HE; 41 The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 1JW; Wine Street, Bristol BS1 2BQ; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JY, or through any bookseller.

Changes in HP controls on domestic central heating

Restrictions on hire purchase and credit sale transactions in respect of domestic space heating installations and appliances were eased from 13 November, when an order made by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, came into effect.

The minimum deposit on space heating installations and appliances subject to hire purchase and credit sale agreements is reduced from 33⅓ per cent to 10 per cent and the maximum repayment term is extended from two years to five years.

The Amending Order is the Hire Purchase and Credit Sale Agreements (Control) (Amendment) Order 1974 (1974 No. 1868 price 3p each). It may be obtained from HM Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1, and branches, or by post from HM Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1.

Notes

The Order amends the Hire Purchase and Credit Sale Agreements (Control) Order 1973 (1973 No. 2129), which was brought into effect on 18 December 1973.

The change has been made in view of the particular difficulties of the space heating industry and to encourage more efficient use of energy.

When the 1973 Order was issued, the Governor of the Bank of England asked banks and finance houses offering personal loans or trading check facilities to impose restrictions similar to the statutory requirements when providing finance for the purchase of goods listed in the Control Order. He also asked those concerned to restrict the terms of the facilities available on credit cards. The Government similarly asked others offering personal loan and trading check facilities to impose similar restrictions on their credit trading. These voluntary arrangements are to continue.

Trade enquiries should be directed to the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Consumer Credit Branch, Sanctuary Buildings (Room 451), Great Smith Street, London SW1 (tel: 01-215 3602/3612).

Measures to aid industry proposed in the Price Code review

Effective price control is needed to support the Social Conctract, said Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 14 November.

Speaking at the Marketing Society Conference at the Royal Festival Hall, Mr. Maclennan said: 'The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection announced a fundamental review of the Price Code in July. The results of this review formed a part of the package of measures included in the Chancellor's Budget statement on Tuesday and the Government's proposals for the Price Code have been published and described in a new Consultative Document. During the discussions that led up to the preparation of the Consultative Document industry asked for the complete removal of the price control or that a profit control only should be retained. The Government have not accepted these arguments. They have taken the view that an effective price control must be maintained to support the Social Contract for, as the Price Commission's most recent report has made plain, the danger is that commodity cost inflation will be replaced by wage and salary inflation.

'While keeping price control the Government have proposed a series of measures to assist industry – and in particular to sustain investment and with it jobs – jobs not only in making investment goods but the jobs that will be created as new investment is installed.

'It has been suggested that the proposals do not go far enough. I must say this, that the scope for addition to prices is severely limited given the high rates of inflation that we have. A part – perhaps a substantial part – of industry's difficulties is caused by the inflation itself and uncontrolled additions to prices will only feed the inflation.

'I hope very much that when the range of measures proposed in the Budget and in the Code has been fully studied, it will be seen that they are wide ranging and, as a package, substantial.

> We have proposed a new relief in the Price Code for investment under which firms will be able to recover over a sixth of their expenditure on plant and machinery next year.
>
> The tax burden that will fall on companies this winter on profits which are really stock appreciation will be eased.
>
> And, in addition to industry being able to generate more funds for itself to finance investment, the availability of bank finance is being improved.

'I hope that in the event the objective that Government, employers and employees all want – for sustaining investment and employment – will be achieved. As marketing experts you will be the first to appreciate how damaging it is if stocks and work in progress are having to be reduced as well as investment for the future.

'We have already held extensive discussions with the CBI, TUC, the Retail Consortium and many other representative organisations and individual companies. There will now be a further short consultative period for we want to get the new Code in operation as soon as possible so that industry may know where it stands and plan and progress next year's investment upon a more confident basis.' (*See also page* 369).

Price Commission interventions during October

During October the Price Commission rejected 30 prenotifications of price increases from manufacturing and service companies in Category I and II. In 33 cases the companies concerned withdrew their prenotifications of intended increases and in 78 the extent of the increase notified was reduced by the Commission.

Since the beginning of Stage 3, the Commission has rejected a total of 1236 prenotifications and reduced the extent of a further 725; 373 notifications were withdrawn.

During the month the Price Commission reached agreement with 6 distributors in Category II to secure price reductions amounting to £1.7 million in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits as revealed in their periodic returns. Agreement was also reached with 2 manufacturers (1 each in Categories I and II) to eliminate excess net profits of £141,000.

Following their inspection of records kept by enterprises in Category III, the Commission's regional officers have secured agreements with 30 manufacturers and distributors in Category III to make price reductions of £425,000 in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits. In addition the regional officers secured a total of 266 individual voluntary price reductions following investigation of complaints about price increases.

Note

Following the receipt of prenotifications submitted by Category I and II enterprises the Price Commission may intervene at any time during or after the 28 day period which must elapse before the increases can be implemented. Announcements about price increases which occur after the prenotification period had expired, and where the Price Commission have not intervened are the responsibility of the companies imposing the increases.

Rejections

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Automotive Products Ltd.	Hydraulic braking systems, clutches, transmissions, suspensions, joints, silencers, springs	10.80
Gulf Oil (GB) Ltd.	Petroleum products	30.00
Heatrae Ltd.	Electrical heating equipment	8.49
Heatrae Group (Catering Division)	Catering equipment	10.38
Heatrod Elements Ltd.	Electrical heating elements	6.86
Humphries Film Laboratories Ltd.	Photographic processing	10.00
ICI Ltd.	Ammonia	6.39
Scot-Bowyers Ltd.	Sausages, meat pies and cooked meats	7.20
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Petroleum products	23.00
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Petroleum products	23.00 + 0.116p per gallon
Texaco Ltd.	Petroleum products	25.00
Category II		
Addressograph-Multigraph Ltd.	Office machinery and associated parts and supplies	10.00
APV-Osborne Craig Ltd.	Pumps and mixing equipment	7.48
Blundell-Permoglaze Ltd.	Industrial paints and thinners	4.32
Creffield Blackstock Engineering Co. Ltd.	Automotive components	28.94
Diamond Refractories Ltd.	Refractories, kiln and monolithic materials	10.00
G. H. Downing and Co. Ltd.	Roofing tiles	36.00
	Refractory goods	10.00
	Clay and calcium silicate bricks	12.50
	Quarry stone	10.00
The Falmouth Towage Co. Ltd.	Charges	40.00
Glenville Ltd.	Milk-based products	12.00
Hardy Bros. (Alnwick) Ltd.	Fishing tackle and accessories	13.08
Innsworth Metals Ltd.	Plating	13.00
Landon Kingsway Ltd.	Gas and oil burners, spares and fire control equipment	20.00
Mandaw Products Ltd. and Ever Ready Co. (GB) Ltd.	Dry (primary) batteries	5.86
Mining Supplies Ltd.	Adaptor pans	31.36
	Head frames	27.92
	Return ends	20.40
	Offset drive frames	27.82
James North & Sons Ltd.	Spectacles, protective goggles helmets and shields	10.30 to 43.87
The Readers Digest Association	'Readers Digest' magazine	26.57
	Records	6.08 to 36.57
Rosedale Industries Ltd.	Organs, toys, houseware and lampshades	30.8 to 40.6
Taylor Law & Co. Ltd.	Bake tins, kitchen gadgets and cookware	8.50
Valor Heating Ltd.	Heaters, fires, lamps, spares conversion kits	5.51
Wilmot Breeden (Truflo) Ltd.	Commercial ball valves	33.00

Withdrawals

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Beechams Agricultural Products	Animal feedingstuffs	11.98
BOC Transhield Ltd.	Ambient merchandise in cartons/trays and chilled merchandise	25.30
Butlin's Ltd.	Holiday camp tariffs	5.06
	Holiday hotel tariffs	5.88
ICI Ltd.	Arcton 114	17.75
	Urea	£0.84 per tonne
F. A. Power Ltd.	Bright steel products	5.23
Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd.	Biscuits, jellies, nuts, spreads, cocoa powder, dry mix products and pickles	5.12
Category II		
Bradley & Co. Ltd.	Housewares	6.05
Burts & Harvey Ltd.	PCOC agrochemical products	18.76 + £13.25 per tonne
Cambrian Castings Ltd.	Aluminium gravity and pressure die castings	2.82
Campbells Soups Ltd.	Soups	7.35
Centre Hotels (Cranston) Ltd.	Accommodation and bar drinks	5.10
CPC (UK) Ltd.	Knorr soup	6.84
Elizabeth Arden Ltd.	Cosmetic products and beauty treatment services	3.83
Evode Ltd.	Adhesives	3.46
	Mastics	6.53
	Chemicals	7.90
F. W. Farnsworth Ltd.	Meat pies and sausages	6.10
Fibatube Ltd.	Fibre glass tube	12.50
Fox's Buiscuits Ltd.	Biscuits	10.25
Hailwood & Ackroyd Ltd.	Hydraulic valves, power braking components and spares	2.49
Hartonclean Ltd.	Laundry, dry cleaning and coin-operated laundry services	7.20
Ideal Standard Ltd.	Road haulage	4.90
Jas Smith & Sons (Cleaners) Ltd.	All services	7.20
John Crockatt Ltd.	All services	7.20
John Morris & Sons Ltd.	Hose couplings, gunmetal adaptors and dry riser equipment	15.00
Johnson Bros (Dyers) Ltd.	All services	7.20
Johnson Cleaners (Southern) Ltd.	All services	7.20
Joseph Harris Ltd.	Dry cleaning & allied services	7.20
J. Puller & Sons Ltd.	All services	7.20
Merchandising & Sales Services Ltd.	Merchandising services at sales points	6.48
Scapa Textiles Ltd.	Asbestos cement felts	10.0
Singer Co. (UK) Ltd. – Consumer Products Group	Domestic sewing machines, motors, parts and accessories	18.20
Tullis Russell Co. Ltd.	Paper and board	8.75

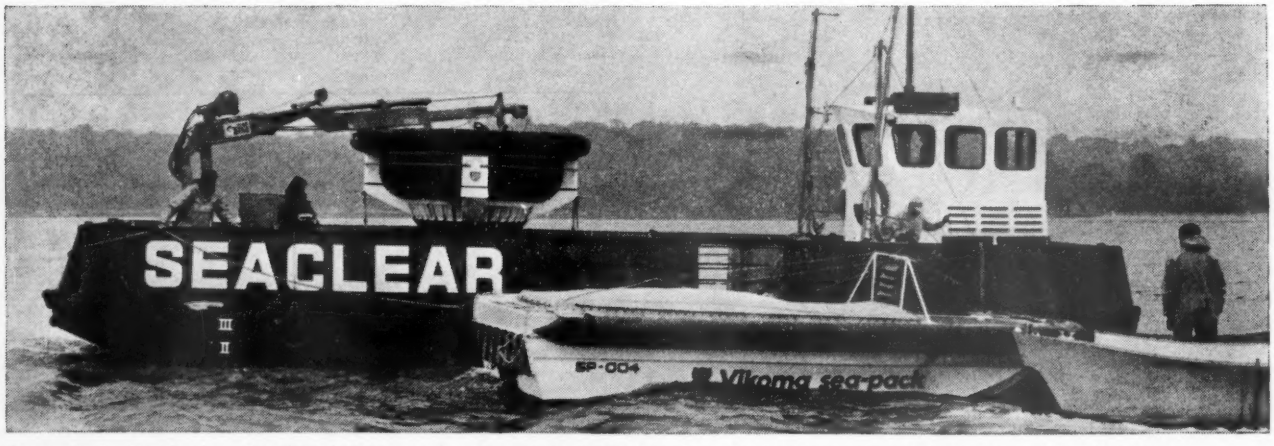
Modifications

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made
Category I			
Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd.	Accommodation, food and drink in hotels	1.75	0.025
Avis Rent-A-Car Ltd.	Car and truck hire rental charges	3.31	1.38
BICC Ltd.	Mineral insulated metal sheathed cables and accessories	7.38	0.59
Blaw Knox Ltd.	Range of power finishers	4.15	0.75
	Road sweepers	5.08	0.62
British Transport Hotels Ltd.	Apartments, food and drink	3.92	0.22
Burman & Sons Ltd.	Steering gears & oil pumps	7.80	0.23
J. F. Chester (Roughton) Ltd.	Animal feeding stuffs	4.66	1.57
Chloride Bardic Ltd.	Battery-operated emergency lighting, safety equipment	6.50	0.20
Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.	Carbonated and concentrated soft drinks	9.60	0.04
	Canned carrots	59.95	1.13

Company	Product		% increase sought
The Decca Record Co. Ltd.	Commercial colour television	11.30	0.52
Fibreglass Ltd.	Reinforcements, glass fibre products	27.0	18.6
GKN South Wales Ltd.	Cold rolled strip	6.85 +£9 per ton surcharge	0.24 + 70p per ton surcharge
Hazells Offset Ltd.	Periodicals	2.90	0.16
ICI Ltd.	Propathene	1,29 + £9.53 per tonne	£1.24 per tonne
ITT Creed Ltd.	Teleprinters, data peripheral equipment and spares	5.56–15.80	0-5.30
Kraft Foods Ltd.	Catering processed cheese blocks	7.21	0.09
Lucas Aerospace Ltd. (Electrical Group)	Electrical power generation and distribution equipment; aircraft switchgear, activators, motors and starters; constant speed drives, gas turbine engines and ball screws	12.91	0.54
Lucas Aerospace Ltd. (Fabrication Group)	Fabricated aero engine sub-assemblies	11.37	0.60
Lucas Aerospace Ltd. (Actuation Group)	Hydraulic and pneumatic equipment, aircraft engine control systems, aircraft fuel pumps, flow proportioners and associated equipment	11.64	1.02
Lucas Aerospace Ltd. (Engine Manf. Group)	Hydrochemical and electronic fuel systems and associated equipment for aero engines	12.20	0.68
Muir-Hill Ltd.	Loading shovels	10.50	1.28
Mullard Ltd.	All home sales	2.67	1.11
Joseph Odam Ltd.	Animal feeding stuffs	4.81	1.29
Petters Ltd.	Diesel and petrol engines, transport refrigeration and spares	7.00	0.10
Philips Domestic Appliances Ltd.	Twin-Tub washing machines	9.50	2.06
	Automatic washing machines	8.76	1.73
	Tumble dryers	16.87	2.84
Rists Wires & Cables Ltd.	Harness assemblies and components	9.89	1.50
Schweppes Ltd.	Soft drinks	9.88	0.32
Securicor Subsidiary Holdings Ltd.	Selected services	5.09	0.04
Smedley HP Foods Ltd.	Selected non-seasonal canned vegetables	41.78	2.34
United Biscuits Ltd.	Biscuits, crisps and processed nuts	8.61	1.52
Winget Ltd.	Portable concrete mixers	15.30	1.98
Yorkshire Imperial Metals Ltd.	Tubes, tubeplates, fittings and valves (non-ferrous)	10.04	1.31

Category II

Antler Ltd.	Luggage	11.00	0.90
Armstrong Patents Co. Ltd.	Shock absorbers, struts and other automotive components	4.35	1.34
Associated Biscuits Ltd.	Biscuits	3.30	0.01
Ault & Wiborg Paints Ltd.	All products	8.98	4.66
Barratt & Co. Ltd.	Confectionery	15.12	0.97
Bell & Sons Ltd.	Uvobloc feeding block	5.90	2.71
Berger, Jensen and Nicholson Ltd.	Vehicle refinishing products decorative products	6.75	1.50
Bovril Ltd.	Yeast based products	19.88	5.44
Briggs, Jones & Gibson Ltd.	Uniforms	13.01	2.63
Burgess Products Co. Ltd.	Exhaust silencers, air filters and components	7.82	1.90
Canning Town Glass Works Ltd.	Glass containers	19.37	0.47
Closland Hughes and Co. Ltd	Tapestry bed covers	53.50	33.30
J. Compton Sons and Webb Ltd.	Uniforms	15.33	0.25
Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co. Ltd.	Portable pneumatic and electric tools, air compressors, rock drilling and mining equipment	9.38	2.64
Richard Cooper and Co. (Ashbourne) Ltd.	'Excelsior' range of foundation garments	15.50	1.00
Drayton Controls	Process control instruments, pneumatic and electric actuators, valves, and central heating controls	8.20	0.11
Gibbons Northern Brick Ltd.	Building bricks	12.40	1.52
Goodless Wall and Co.	Decorative paints	7.00	0.10
Gravity-Randall Ltd.	Timber and aluminium ladders, metal wheel barrows and associated products	8.50	2.11
Wm Jackson and Son Ltd.	Flour confectionery	12.39	0.14
Jet Filters Ltd.	General engineering and metal work	5.90	0.76
Kaye Alloy Casings Ltd.	Die castings	23.78	7.13
Longmore Brothers Ltd.	Bright steel bars	3.89	0.45
McCorquodale Printers Ltd.	Computer punch cards	8.64	0.08
W. L. Miller and Sons Ltd. and Roberts and Birch Ltd	Sausages, pies and cooked meats	12.33	0.81
Morrison and Gibb Ltd.	Printing and book-binding	15.05	1,34
Newage Engineers Ltd.	Alternating current generators	13.56	0.32
George Payne and Co. Ltd.	Confectionery	15.17	0.16
Pegler Hattersley Ltd.	Cast iron valves	4.07	1.12
	Plastic baths and panels	14.1	0.01
S. Russell and Sons Ltd.	Iron castings	13.55	1.30
Sheepbridge Stokes Ltd.	Cast iron rod	8.50	0.28
C. Shippam Ltd.	Spreadable products	7.77	0.34
South Mills (Textiles) Ltd.	Bri-nylon stock dyed tumbled and heatset carpet face yarn	6.32	0.08
Sperry Rand Ltd.	Systems products	5.45	1.66
Barry Staines (Sales) Ltd.	Floor coverings	5.00	1.00
Starch Products Ltd.	Starch derivatives and adhesives	11.53	0.20
Sterling Health Products	'Delrosa' rosehip syrup	4.76	0.40
The Readers Digest Association Ltd.	Condensed books	25.25	3.39
USMC International Ltd.	Machinery for shoe-repairing	12.40	1.20
Jonas Woodhead Ltd.	Laminated coil springs and forgings	10.11	0.93
Woodhead Components Ltd.	Starter gear rings	5.88	1.33
Jonas Woodhead Ltd.	Ferrous and non-ferrous compression, tension, torsion, and flat springs of all kinds	5.70	0.85
Worthington-Simpson Ltd.	Pumps and compressors and related equipment	8.77	0.33



A new device for clearing oil spills is helping combat the spread of pollution along the southern coast of the Irish Republic following the tanker leak at Bantry Bay. It is the first test under emergency conditions of British Petroleum's Vikoma system – already under evaluation for use at the pollution control centres being established round the United Kingdom. A small prototype unit is clearing as much as 8 tons of oil an hour at Bantry Bay from coastal inlets inaccessible either by foot or boat. The Vikoma is pictured during tests, when oil was recovered at 100 tons an hour. The system uses a boom which prevents spilt oil from spreading. Once it is contained, the Vikoma Seaskimmer picks it up on rotating discs and pumps it into a container.

Onshore petroleum exploration licences

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has granted three licences authorising the exploration for petroleum (ie oil and gas) in an area of approximately 540 square miles covering parts of Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire.

The three licences have been issued jointly to Cambrian Exploration Ltd., and Ulster Petroleums (Canada) Ltd., under the provisions of the Petroleum (Production) Act 1934 and related regulations.

The licences authorise the searching for oil and gas by prospecting and geological surveying, including drilling to a depth of not more than 350 m. to obtain geological information.

The licences do not confer the right to drill for or to produce oil or gas. Licensees must obtain the permission of landowners and occupiers before entering on to any land. They are also required to consult local authorities before carrying out any seismic survey or drilling operation and to obtain any planning permissions which may be required.

Licences are valid in the first instance for a period of three years and may be renewed annually at the discretion of the Secretary of State for up to a further three years.

Notes

Exploration for oil and gas on land has been going on in the United Kingdom for at least 60 years.

Fifteen similar licences were issued last year. Eighteen exploration licences are, therefore, now in force.

A total of 174 production licences have been issued since 1966 under the 1934 Act. Of these, 74 are still in force. In addition, there are 17 mining licences, issued before 1966, also permitting production of petroleum.

In 1973, landward production of oil was about 87,000 tons. This, and other details relating to landward drilling activity was published in May, 1974 in the Department of Energy's 'Brown Book' (*Production and Reserves of Oil and Gas in the United Kingdom*).

Opportunities for offshore industry in the north-west

'This conference is the North-West Industrial Development Association's first major exercise in publicising in the region the opportunities attached to the exploitation of our offshore oil and gas. It is not in my view any too soon.' This was stated on 12 November by John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy at the North-West Industrial Association Conference in Liverpool.

Mr. Smith continued: 'The opportunities exist in profusion and it is most important that north-west industry should get in on a lucrative – if demanding – market.

'This market, at home, is worth at least £500 million a year. But, perhaps more important, there will be a world market for offshore hardware of some magnitude in the foreseeable future, as the now imperative search for hydrocarbons continues in waters that were previously thought unworkable. I say some magnitude. That magnitude may well be of the order of £5,000 million. Some market.

'I know that a number of significant contracts have recently been won by north-west firms. These have included work on terminals, storage tanks, electrical cables, jetty design pumps, turbo compressors, platform legs, fire protection systems, computer control systems. Even a contract to supply oil rigs with long-life milk from a dairy at Oswaldthistle!

'So you in the north-west are already involved. And the news of renewed exploration off the Lancashire coast has acted as a catalyst to this growing involvement. The significance of the gas tapped by British Gas's first borehole has not yet been established. Other licences for exploration are held in the same area. We all await developments here with great interest.

'Whatever the outcome of this further exploration, I feel confident that industry in the north-west will see its involvement in offshore oil work continue to grow. In an area with a workforce of three million, many of them skilled, and boasting one-seventh of the country's manufacturing capacity, it would be surprising – and indeed tragic – if it did not.

'My Secretary of State, Mr. Varley, has told Parliament that our proved and probable reserves from commercial fields is now around 1,160 million tons. A few weeks ago the Bank of Scotland estimated that the value of all the oil in the North Sea could exceed £100,000 million.

'There can therefore be no doubts now about our offshore industry being simply a flash in the pan. The number of finds made over the last 18 months has established beyond doubt that Britain has a large new market on its doorstep in supplying the equipment necessary to bring that oil and gas ashore.

'But if we are to secure the share of these markets that we, with our native inventiveness and industrial skill, are capable of, we have to get in on the ground floor. We must adapt now to the needs and to the new techniques of this new industry: to provide the equipment and services which we specialise in already, and to be looking for the gaps which could be filled.

'The greater part of the oil companies' offshore expenditure is going on the large items of equipment, such as drilling and production platforms, pipelines and the contracting services needed to instal them. But the range of equipment and services needed by the offshore market is extremely wide.

'When an oil company is having to pay about £15,000 a day to operate a semi-submersible drilling rig, a supplier's reputation for reliability and delivery on time becomes to a certain extent more important than its price.

'Major areas of the offshore business where the United Kingdom capability is well below what I would have expected include fabrication of exploration drilling rigs, heavy lift crane ships and pipelaying.

'There are other areas: well testing; treatment equipment; well-head equipment and drilling equipment.

'These are important areas of work offering scope for the drive and initiative of British industry.

'It is in these areas, as well as in the more traditional ones, that the Government intends to continue to help industry here, and throughout the UK'.

Negotiations with oil companies on majority State participation

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has written to the licence holders of the 12 commercially proven oil fields in the North Sea inviting them to enter into negotiations with the Government aimed at achieving majority State participation in those fields.

In his letter Mr. Varley explains that detailed negotiations on State participation will be undertaken by Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He will be assisted by Edmund Dell, Paymaster General, and Lord Balogh, Minister of State for Energy.

'Mr. Lever will be getting in touch with you over the course of the next few weeks to suggest an early discussion' he says.

Mr. Varley also says that as taxation is a matter for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, negotiations on this aspect will be handled on his behalf by the Paymaster General who will be arranging separate talks with a selection of the companies mainly concerned within the next few days.

Advisory Council on Energy Conservation meets

Sir William Hawthorne, chairman of the Advisory Council on Energy Conservation, welcomed, on 13 November, the statements made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget speech on the urgent need to promote the efficient and economic use of energy and to cut out waste.

Speaking after the second meeting of the Council, Sir William said: 'The Chancellor has underlined the Government's determination to cut down the use of energy and not least of oil. We shall be giving Mr. Varley the Secretary of State for Energy, advice and ideas for the further measures which he is to announce shortly.

'We are considering a whole range of measures to help ordinary people to save fuel and money; to help them get the most out of the fuel they use; and to cut out waste. What is clear is that energy conservation in Britain is now vital to our economic position in the world.'

At its meeting the Council received reports from six of the 11 investigating teams

European Commercial Law Library

This new series of handbooks is designed specifically for the businessman and his professional adviser. Under the distinguished General Editorship of Professor **Robert R. Pennington,** it presents in a clear, simple form the leading features of the national commercial laws of the member states of the European Communities. The authors have presented the law and practice from a practical point of view, emphasising the principal difficulties that are likely to be encountered and the ways in which they may be overcome. The first two titles are shown below and these will be followed within the next few months by **Italian Company Law, German Company Law** and **Dutch Company Law.**

French Company Law

by Professor J. Le Gall

The first title in the series is purely practical and only the fundamental aspects of the French law governing companies and partnerships are emphasised. It deals with the classification of partnership and companies; public and private companies; management and control; winding up; and conversions of companies.

1974 £3.40 (postage 15p)

French Business Taxation

by Professor **R. Roblot**

This book opens with a general outline of the French system of taxation and then is divided into five main parts: Taxation on the income of Commercial Undertakings; the Taxation of Transactions; Taxation on Capital Transactions; Taxation Incidental to the Conduct of a Business; and Business Undertakings and the Tax Authorities.

1974 £3.40 (postage 15p)

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which were established at its first meeting on 23 October to look into such matters as energy conservation in homes, buildings, industry, transport and into education and information, technology, and prices.

The other teams will report at the next meeting on 5 December.

Study of market for North Sea support vessels

The Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy has appointed H. P. Drewry (Shipping Consultants) Ltd. to carry out a study of the supply and demand for certain types of ships and boats used for servicing the mobile rigs and fixed platforms in the North Sea.

The report will contain forecasts of offshore oil and gas related activities and the number of support vessels needed, up to 1980 and possibly beyond.

Lord Balogh opens New York oil conference

'The discovery of North Sea oil is perhaps the most important economic development in the UK since the industrial revolution' said Lord Balogh, Minister of State, Department of Energy, on 13 November. Lord Balogh, who was delivering the opening address at the Financial Times/Oil Daily Conference in New York, said: 'It is something on which we must get our policies right. If we go too far one way or the other, the penalties we have to pay as a nation could be very great. Hence the high priority which the present Government has given to it. The guiding principle of the Government's policy was that the people as a whole must enjoy the participation in revenues furnished by the North Sea fields.

'At the moment there is considerable economic rent, largely created by the quadrupling of oil prices in the past year, which neither the Government nor the licensees foresaw when the licences were issued. This rent has accrued on a scarce and valuable resource which by an Act of Parliament going as far back as 1934, belongs to the nation.

'From this guiding principle,' Lord Balogh said, 'two consequences flowed. First, that there must be a substantial increase in Government "take".

'The second principle was that it was intended to leave the companies a rate of return on their investment sufficient to keep them active in the North Sea. The British Government did not wish to do anything to discourage the companies.

'In short we intend to give a fair deal to both the community and the companies.

'Our chosen method for doing so is participation. The White Paper issued in July said that it would be a condition of all future licences that the State should have an option of majority participation in them also. The Prime Minister announced when Parliament met that Mr. Harold Lever would be in charge of detailed negotiations assisted by Mr. Edmund Dell, who chaired the Public Accounts Committee, whose report on oil has become one of the classics of Government papers, and myself.

'I can now tell you that Eric Varley, the Secretary of State for Energy, wrote yesterday to each of the licensees for the oilfields so far declared commercial to invite them to such talks with Mr. Lever over the next few weeks. We naturally hope that the negotiations will be quick and successful.

'Why do we think participation is the best way of achieving the interests of the State and the companies? For the State it has the enormous advantage of not only providing a fair share of the profits, but also giving it direct knowledge and expertise in the operations of the oil industry. Regulation from without, by edict, can never be as satisfactory for us as direct participation, as a partner, in the licence.

'Virtually every other oil-producing country in the world has therefore adopted participation as the right way for the State to involve itself in the operations of its oil industry. I can mention outside OPEC, such countries as Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark, Australia, New Zealand, and the Canadian provinces. All the oil and gas producing members of the European Economic Community have participation in oil and gas in one form or another. So we are doing nothing very new or radical. We are following, not setting, examples.

'Participation is also the best way from the company's point of view of involving the State in oil production. This is because the State contributes to costs – a consideration of increasing importance in the North Sea today. Depending on the detailed terms agreed, the effect of participation on a company's rate of return can be much less than the effect of tax.

'Indeed, we would really like to regard participation as a form of partnership between public and private sectors to which each has something to contribute and from which each has something to gain. Perhaps I can emphasise one or two things about participation as we see it to dispel any possible misunderstandings.

'First we hope to establish successful co-operation with the companies on participation.

'Secondly, we shall not discriminate between companies.

'Thirdly, we shall be very willing to listen to any proposals the companies put forward designed to make participation work on a fair and equitable basis.

'Finally it must not be forgotton that capital depreciation is perhaps the most important factor in determining internal rate of return.'

Technology News

A move to strengthen Britain's deep sea diving

The Offshore Supplies Office (OSO) of the Department of Energy – which has the job of identifying opportunities for industry in Britain's offshore services – has written to 23 British companies with an interest in diving technology, suggesting how they might develop a competitive British capability to meet the needs of the oil companies.

The main proposal is that Ministry of Defence expertise, especially in deep-water operations, should be used to help commercial companies to strengthen their own capabilities. OSO could also consider proposals for support from the Government under the provisions of the Industry Act 1972.

The letter suggests that individual firms – or preferably consortia of interested firms – should enter immediate discussions with OSO and the Ministry of Defence to build up a commercial venture to enable British firms to develop in this important field of technology.

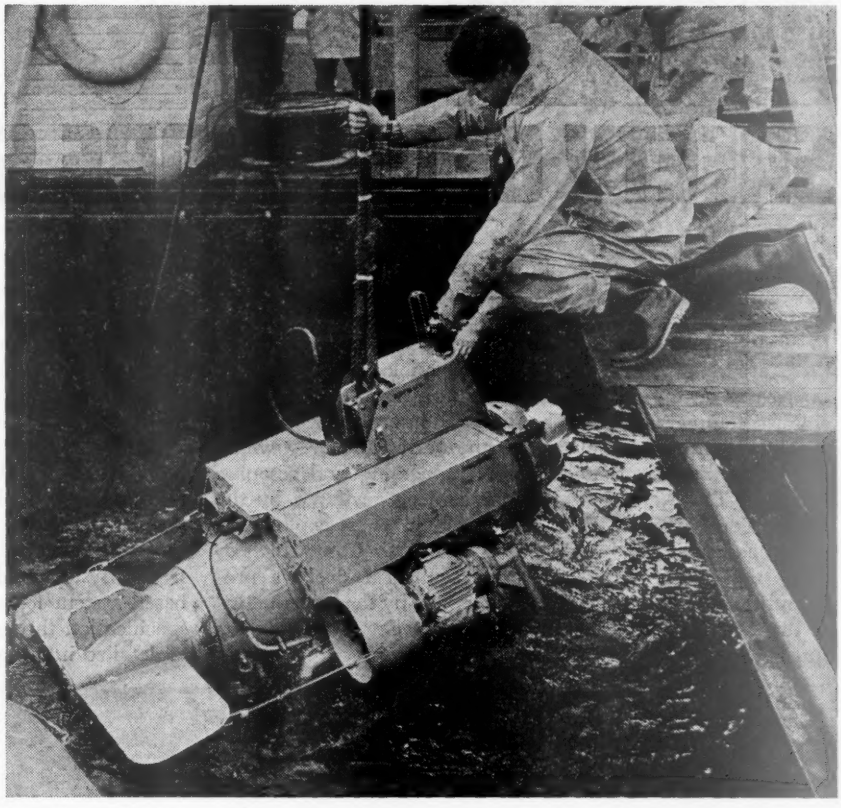
At present, the major proportion of advanced diving contracts in the North Sea are undertaken by foreign owned companies, although a high percentage of the divers are British Nationals, many having been trained by the Royal Navy.

For many years the Royal Navy were world leaders in both the technological and physiological field for diving. With the recent increasing commercial interest in deep diving, which has only developed over the past year, the larger foreign companies, mainly American and French, have developed rapidly in the technological field. Now their equipment may be in advance of that of the Royal Navy.

OSO feel, however, that the UK commercial position, particularly in deep saturation diving, could be reinstated by using Ministry of Defence expertise to develop a stronger UK diving industry.

Ministry of Defence could help by making available the design, or possible variants of it, of the existing Ministry of Defence saturation diving system. Their expertise would also come in useful in the design, construction, supervision and commissioning of saturation diving systems where there could be economies from using Ministry of Defence designs of components and sub-systems. Ministry of Defence equipment could also be used to develop improved underwater systems and techniques, eg deep bounce dives, use of different gas mixtures, etc.

It may also be possible to arrange some Ministry of Defence use during the 'off peak' season of a commercial saturation system (installed in a vessel provided by the private sector) within an agreed programme.



'Angus', a navigable general-purpose underwater surveyor, developed by a research team at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh. This unmanned remote-controlled submersible has been taken out on the MAFF ship *Cirolana* observing cable, and last month on the National Environment Research Council ship *Challenger* when its performance was compared with two other submersibles. The prototype 'Angus' weighs about 700 lb. and is linked by cable to surface control and T.V. equipment. Tests have demonstrated that it is capable of carrying out sea bed surveys at any depth to be found in the North Sea. The 'Angus' programme is supported by Heriot-Watt University the Science Research Council, Vickers Shipbuilding and the Government.

New offshore communications company

A new organisation to provide radio and other communications facilities for the oil production platforms in the North Sea is in the process of incorporation by International Aeradio Ltd. and Cable and Wireless Ltd. It will be known as Energy Communications Ltd. and will be equally financed by the two participating companies and draw on their joint experience across the whole field of telecommunications. The authorised capital will be £5 million.

Mr. A. A. Willett, managing director of Cable and Wireless and first chairman of the new company, said that following consultations with the Department of Industry, the Department of Energy, and the Post Office, the joint venture now had full and positive support.

Energy Communications Ltd., staffed by IAL and Cable and Wireless telecommunications experts, will offer consultancy, financing and supply, installation and maintenance services and will provide permanent communications systems and ancillary services in the offshore production areas.

In conjunction with the appropriate telecommunications authorities – the Post Office in the case of the United Kingdom – main bearer communications systems will be provided together with spur and ancillary systems which will link the offshore terminals of the main bearer systems with adjacent production platforms and pumping stations.

Peripheral services will also be provided including telex, PABX telephone systems, data tele-processing, instrumentation, aviation communications systems and navigational aids, marine communications systems and emergency facilities.

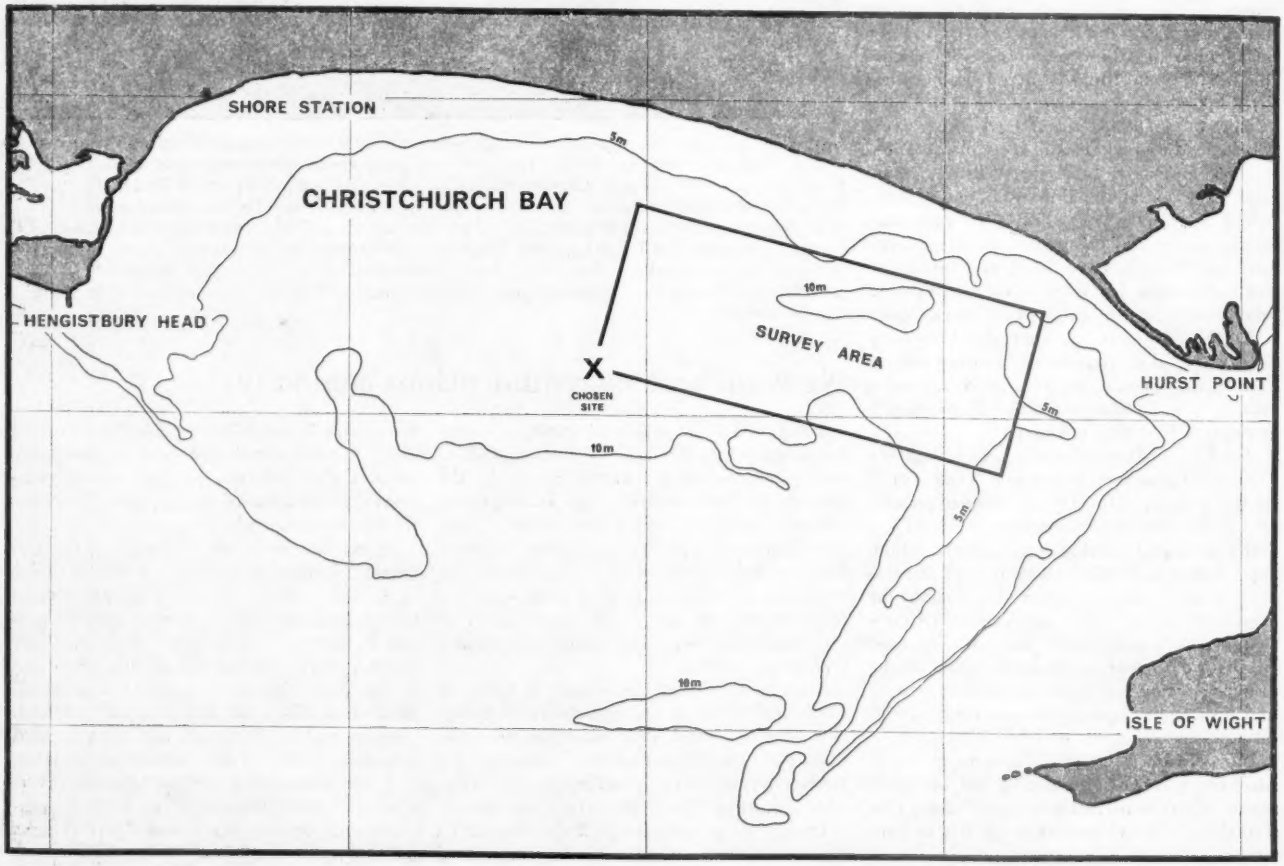
Jennifer Clarke looks at the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board and one of its projects

SAFETY OF OFFSHORE STRUCTURES

The growth of new materials, designs and industries calls for new standards of safety and efficiency. This is particularly true in the case of ships and marine technology and in order to organise government funded research and development in these areas the Ship and Marine Technology Requirement Board was set up in December 1972 as a result of the Rothschild recommendations. The Board's interest covers shipbuilding, ship operations and marine technology, which includes offshore and underwater engineering and resource recovery. These are similar to the subjects reviewed by the former Committee on Marine Technology, whose exploratory work has been used by the Board as a basis from which to study the balances of the Department of Industry's programmes, including proposals put forward by the 'contractors' to the Board as represented by Government establishments and the private sector.

When assessing programmes from industry and from its own advisory groups, the Board asks whether the project will lead to a commercially viable result, will add to the sum of knowledge available to industry or increase safety. The high proportion of industrialists on the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board, seven out of a total membership of fifteen, ensures a strictly practical approach.

Among the projects of particular interest to industry, at present being funded by the Board are the development of a shiphandling and manoeuvring simulator, including a nocturnal simulator and, jointly funded with the British Ship Research Association, the development of a Ship Structural Design System. This latter project aims to develop a computer-based system for use by shipbuilders, from the preliminary specification through the tendering stage up to the provision of detailed information for production.



The shortage of information about offshore structures in general has led, in some cases, to the adoption of unduly large safety factors, inefficient use of materials and lots of costly equipment. The Board is now sponsoring several research programmes covering wind, wave and current conditions and the loading induced on offshore structures, as well as the response of components, joints and structures, their effect in the overall environment and long term cyclic loading and corrosion.

Other major projects supported by the Board include a study of underwater arc welding, undersea pipe laying and burial, the dynamic positioning of vessels (maintaining a vessel at a given point without multiple mooring), the development of a high definition sonar survey equipment for hydrographic use and a prototype for an ocean data buoy.

Looked at in detail, each of these projects can be justified under at least one of two main criteria; they are either helping to establish satisfactory safety standards in shipping and offshore operations, which if necessary will be embodied in statutes and government regulations, or they will lead to increased efficiency and enable industry to improve its competitive position.

Osflag project 9

Taking one of these many projects and examining it in detail, project 9 on the programme of the Offshore Structures Fluid Loading Advisory Group, the study of wave forces on a coastal structure (OSFLAG 9) will help to improve the existing methods for predicting loads caused by the actions of the sea and with the framing of safety regulations for rigs and platforms. Certificates will be required for all rigs and platforms operating on the UK Continental Shelf and the project will help to see that technical requirements are realistic and are based on the best available information. At the same time it will improve design knowledge in general.

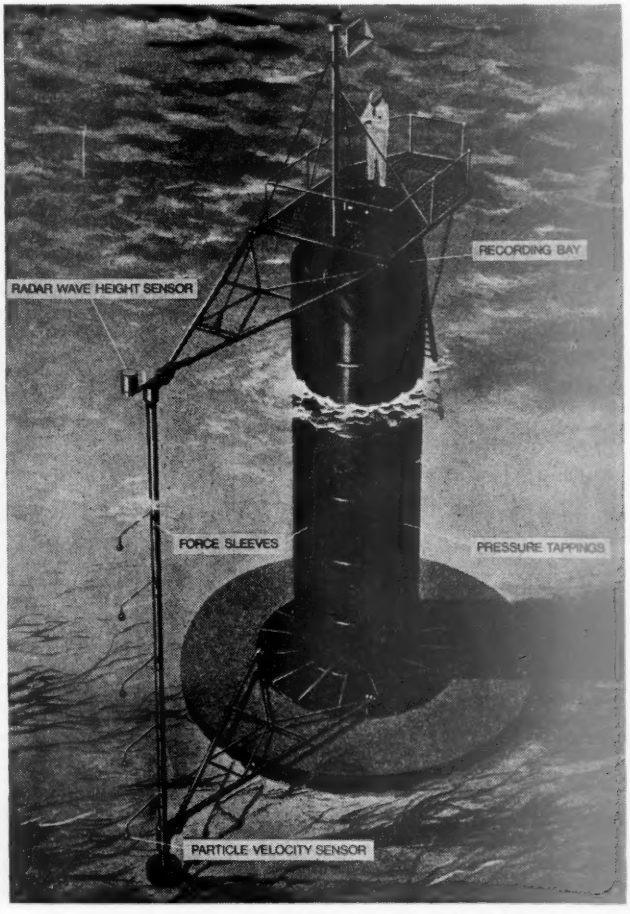
At present there is little full-scale information on the loads and pressures due to waves and currents on large structures. Some of the gas installations in the southern basin of the North Sea are now showing signs of deterioration, while a significant number of fixed platforms in the Gulf of Mexico have been lost or damaged. Also in the North Sea, there have been problems with exploratory drilling rigs, even in normal sea conditions when rigs, which are not fixed but floating, have capsized due to the loss of a leg or other structural damage.

Although these structures are different in type from the large towers which will be used in the North Sea, the failures in themselves indicate areas where further knowledge is required to improve design data.

OSFLAG 9 will measure the loads and pressures due to waves and currents on a vertical cylinder, in an actual sea environment and at a larger scale than is possible with laboratory models. The structure will be deployed in a coastal situation with good access from a land base.

The structure will be approximately 2.8 m. in diameter and will stand in 8 m. of water. The distribution of the load along the height of the cylinder will be recorded separately at each of five sleeves, while 24 pressure tappings on one sleeve will indicate the distribution of load. A wave-measuring staff 0.4 m. in diameter, fitted by linking arms to the main column, will carry instruments for measuring simultaneously sea

Model of the gravity type structure to be placed in Christchurch Bay.



conditions, water particle motions and force. It will be possible to check the validity of the various wave theories and prediction methods which relate loads to the motions of the sea. This is, therefore a new venture since a research programme of this scope has not been carried out before in the real environment.

The concept of the experiment involves measuring loads on two cylinders covering different regimes of loading. The wave staff will measure loads in the drag-inertia regime while the main column covers loading in the inertia-defraction regime. Thus the overall system should be capable of producing reliable data on both the drag and inertia forces.

After the feasibility study of OSFLAG 9 had been completed the Advisory Group on Seabed Stability Problems presented its report to the Board. This made it clear that very little is known about the interaction between gravity type structures and the seabed. The support properties of the seabed can change over a period of time. It is not known how oscillating loads imposed by waves on the structures will affect the physical properties of the seabed. The fact remains that companies are planning to build a number of such structures. One of these already in existence, the Ekofisk platform, appears to be operating satisfactorily as far as is generally known, but it is resting on an almost perfect foundation, in an advantageous position, which may not apply to subsequent installations.

Bearing this in mind, the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board recommended that OSFLAG 9 should also look at the interaction between gravity type structures and the seabed. As a result, the Department of the Environment's Building Research Station is co-operating with the National Physical Laboratory project and has taken responsibility for the design of a gravity type base. Pressure transducers will be inserted in the seabed and base to record pore pressures, and foundation pressures underneath the face.

The test data will be collected for a period of some months. During that time, 120 channels of data will be recorded on magnetic tape. On board the structure, which will be unmanned, except for routine maintenance, a small computer will record automatically 20 minutes of data every three hours. Selective recording periods can be switched on through a telemetry link. The computer will make a simple analysis of each sample period and results will be transmitted to the shore station by telemetry to provide a quick return of data from the rig and a means of monitoring the various systems.

In accordance with Trinity House requirements, the rig will be fitted with navigation lights and a fog horn system, to forestall any protests from the sailing fraternity.

As a choice of location, Christchurch Bay might seem surprising. Nevertheless, measurements by a wave buoy of sea conditions in the Bay have shown that wave spectra are similar to North Sea conditions at an appropriately reduced scale.

Surveys of the seabed in the Christchurch Bay area have been made in co-operation with the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, followed up by more detailed surveys at particular sites. Core samples of the seabed have been taken up to a depth of about 3 m. and samples of seawater have also been obtained at different stages of the tide, for chemical analysis, to confirm that it did not contain any unsuspected local peculiarities.

Although for some years, oil companies have been operating in the Gulf of Mexico, conditions there are substantially different from the North Sea. Structures in the Gulf of Mexico may need to resist one enormous wave, possibly over 60 ft. high. In this situation, theoretical predictions can be used, based on Morrison's equation. However, nobody quite knows what values of loading co-efficients should be used or more specially how they vary in a random sea situation. In the North Sea, structures are likely to be subjected to much larger persistent waves compared with those experienced during operations in other parts of the world, leading to problems of fatigue and fracture. For these reasons, OSFLAG 9, only one of a series of projects undertaking research in these areas, will be of considerable value for the designers of commercial North Sea structures.

BP's semi-submersible drilling platform Sea Quest which has been withstanding the persistent pounding of the North Sea since 1966. The force of the waves on the rig is shown in the picture below and at the top of the previous page.

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

27 November 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Lido Hall, Worthy Lane, Winchester, Hants.

Auctioneers: Austin & Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants. PO16 7AX (Tel: 03292-4211)

The lots which are lying at Andover, Chertsey, Gosport, Liphook, Woolston and other depots in that area include, various machine tools, electrical and MT spares, aluminium, petrol engines, tyres, watches, binoculars, wood and metal boxes, jerricans, paint, cordage and a large collection of other miscellaneous items. There are 275 lots of clothing which include blankets, boots, blouses and trousers, greatcoats, pullovers, etc., and 150 lots of furniture containing bureaux, chairs, lockers, sideboards, tables and wardrobes. Two Austin Gypsy trucks, two Land Rovers, Bedford utilabrake, Commer minibus and a Ford Cortina estate.

3, 4 and 5 December 1974 Vehicles, Earth Moving and lifting Equipment

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot, Ruddington, near Nottingham, Notts.

Auctioneers: Walker, Walton & Hanson (Dept. L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (Tel: 0602 54272)

1,400 lots, including mobile cranes by Jones and Neal, loading shovels and dozers by Bray, Gainsborough, Michigan and Vickers; agricultural tractors, factory trucks, fork lift trucks, excavators, Coles Milo 19-ton mobile crane, DUKWS, mobile generators, International recovery trucks with crane, 19RB plant spares, Bedford trucks with Simon hoist, 490 saloons, limousines, estate cars, mini buses and light vans including 275 Morris Mini and Minor 1000 saloons and Travellers, 10 Rover 3.5 litre saloons, Princess limousine, 380 Land Rovers, 270 commercial vehicles, including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Leyland and Scammell. Scammell 30-ton 6 × 6 diesel tractor, 180 trailers (10 cwt. to 50 tons), refuellers (800 to 2,500 gallons) and fire tenders, motor cycles. The majority of vehicles are offered as single lots.

Catalogues for the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneer from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Department of the Environment

3 December 1974

Location: Department of the Environment, Supplies Division stores, India Pavilion, Exhibition Grounds, Wembley, Middlesex (Tel: 01-903 2508 or 01-902 4482)

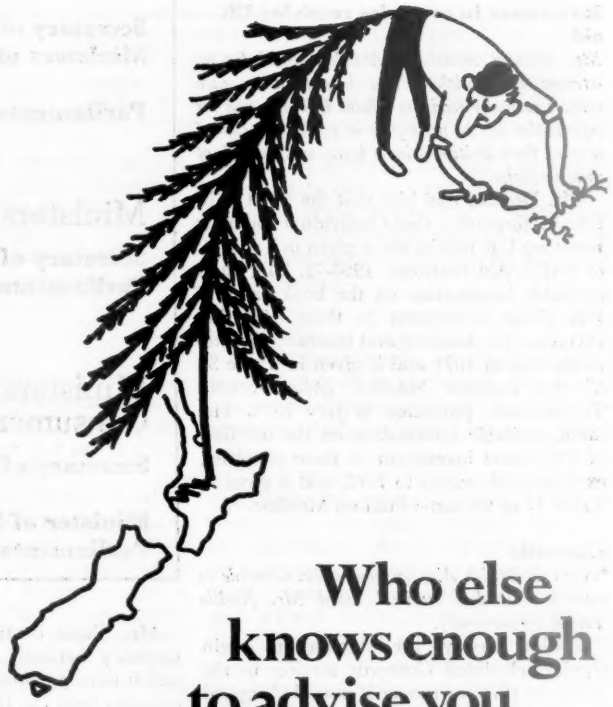
Auctioneers: Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell, 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET (Tel: 01-248 7954)

Office and miscellaneous furniture, engineering, electrical, canteen, domestic and other equipment, etc.

Catalogue: direct from auctioneer, price 10p each.

The metric change

Going Metric is the quarterly bulletin of the Metrication Board. As the metric change is taking place around us *Going Metric* provides information of what is happening in Government, in industry, in education. *Going Metric* is free from the Information Office, J Metrication Board, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE.



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Parliament

Monday, 11 November

Investment in countries receiving UK aid

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked for an estimate of British private investment in each country currently receiving official UK aid, and for information on the net inflow or outflow on capital account from British private investment in each of these countries.

Mr. Deakins told him that the latest published information about individual countries receiving UK official aid is given in Table 12 of British Aid Statistics, 1968-72. The latest available information on the book value of UK direct investment in these countries, excluding oil, banking and insurance, relates to the end of 1971 and is given in Table 35 of the Business Monitor M4, Overseas Transactions, published in July 1974. The latest available information on the net flow of UK direct investment to these countries, excluding oil, relates to 1972, and is given in Table 17 of the same Business Monitor.

Concorde

'When do British Airways now expect Concorde to enter into shadow service?' asked Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth).

'British Airways are planning to begin regular scheduled Concorde services in the spring of 1976, or sooner if possible,' replied Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Meanwhile, the manufacturers of Concorde in co-operation with British Airways will be arranging a series of endurance flights which will form part of the process leading to the awarding of the aircraft's certificate of airworthiness. These endurance, or "shadow", flights are expected to begin about the middle of next year.'

Regional airports

Questions were asked by Mr. Ben T. Ford (Bradford North) on the estimated cost, the available Government finance, and the proposed sites for a Yorkshire Regional Airport.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'Sites at Thorne Waste and Balne Moor for a regional airport in Yorkshire have been suggested by the Yorkshire Airport Development Association, but we are awaiting the recommendations of the Civil Aviation Authority on the Central England Airports Study. Questions of costs and finance do not, therefore, arise at this stage.'

IRI Corporation

Figures were requested by Mr. Adam Butler (Bosworth) showing the net assets and profits of the Italian IRI for 1973 and the previous four years, together with the percentage return on these assets.

Mr. Shore gave the following figures extracted from the annual reports of the Italian IRI Corporation for the years 1969-73.

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Net assets (billion Lire)	512.3	587.7	750.2	926.4	1,096.5
Net profit (billion Lire)	1.4	1.4	1.6	3.4	5.5

These figures give returns on assets of 0.27%, 0.24%, 0.21%, 0.36% and 0.45% respectively.

Mr. Shore continued: 'There is a discrepancy between these figures and those which were provided in response to a similar question from the Hon. Member for Bedford on 24 May 1974 (*Trade and Industry*, 6 June, page 492). The figures given on that occasion have been found to be incorrect and I apologise to the Hon. Member for that error, which has only now come to light.'

Companies registration

Mr. Ben T. Ford (Bradford North) asked if there is any appeal machinery, if an organisation is dissatisfied with a refusal to grant a change of name through the Companies Registration Office.

'It is not the practice to refuse to allow a change of name as such,' answered Mr. Shore. 'My Department does, however, refuse under the powers given by Section 17 and 18 of the Companies Act 1948, the adoption of a specific name which is considered undesirable. Anyone dissatisfied with a decision may ask for the case to be reconsidered. But there is no appeal provision under the Act against my decision.'

Responsibilities of Ministers in the Department of Industry

A statement outlining the responsibilities allocated to the Ministers tn the Department of Industry was requested by Mr. Teddy Taylor, (Glasgow, Cathcart).

Mr. Benn replied: 'I take responsibility for central policy questions and for the co-ordination of the work of my Department.

'The Minister of State, the Rt. Hon. Lord Beswick and the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Meacher, take responsibility for specific industries.

'The Minister of State, Mr. Heffer, takes responsibility for the new Industry Bill, regional industrial policy and small firms. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Mr. MacKenzie, works with him and in addition exercises special responsibilities in connection with the Post Office.'

Bankruptcies

Mr. Leslie Spriggs (St. Helens) wanted to know how many trade unions and industries had made representations to the Department of Industry for advice or assistance since the Secretary of State took office; and how many were estimated to have been saved from either bankruptcy or closure during that period.

'My Department keeps in close touch with both trade unions and management and no statistics are kept on the number of representations received,' answered Mr. Meacher. 'Since 1 March 1974, financial assistance under Section 7 and Section 8 of the Industry Act has been offered in sixteen cases for the purposes of maintaining employment.'

Government assistance to industry

Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked how much had been spent, and promised, respectively, under Sections 7 and 8 of the Industry Act 1972 to private sector companies.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'Up to 30 September 1974, 1,493 offers of regional selective assistance totalling £113 million had been made to companies in the private sector under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972. The offers were made for projects expected to cost £970 million and to provide 116,000 new jobs.

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

'£16 million has been offered in respect of 5 projects under Section 8. These offers are additional to the sums made available under the Wool Textile Industry Scheme and the North Sea Credit Scheme details of which were announced to the House on 19 July 1973 and 6 November 1973, respectively.

'Payments totalling £35 million under Section 7 and £8 million under Section 8 were made up to 30 September 1974.'

Exclusion clauses

Legislation to make exclusion clauses in contracts for services void was suggested by Mr. G. R. Cryer (Keighley).

'As soon as the Law Commissions' report is received, we shall consider urgently what changes are required,' said Mr. Williams.

Sugar shortage

Mr. Alec Woodall (Hemsworth) inquired about evidence of conditions of sale imposed by grocers whereby customers must purchase specific amounts of goods before purchasing sugar.

'My Department has received numerous complaints from all parts of the country about this practice,' answered Mrs. Williams. 'I recognise that at the present time traders may find it necessary to find some means of limiting individual purchases of sugar but I have asked grocery trade associations representing both independent and multiple retailers to remind their members of the importance, when sharing out sugar supplies fairly, of making special arrangments for the more vulnerable sectors of the population, such as pensioners. I believe that retailers generally are willingly co-operating in this.'

Retail price index

Questions about the rate of increase in the index of retail prices were asked by Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) and Mrs. Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester).

Mrs. Williams answered: 'The retail price index rose by 17.1 per cent during the twelve months up to September 1974. The increase since the figure published in February 1974 has been 9.1 per cent.'

Design Council

Questions were asked by Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon), who wanted to know the number of centres of industrial design in England, Scotland and Wales respectively and their numbers of full-time staff; how much was spent by the Council of Industrial Design in England and Wales and by the Council's Scottish Committee in each year since 1970; and the number of full-time officers currently employed by both bodies.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The Design Council operates one design centre in England, one in Scotland and an office in Wales. The numbers of full-time staff currently employed are 265,43 and 2, respectively.

'Expenditure and receipts by the Design Council (excluding the Scottish Committee) during the past five financial years, as published in the Council's Accounts, were:

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure	730,724	781,368	1,030,457	1,088,557	1,409,849
Receipts	306,472	327,933	472,317	501,794	635,199

'Separate figures in respect of England and Wales are not available. The Design Council's office in Wales was opened in March 1974.

'Expenditure and receipts by the Scottish Committee of the Design Council during the past five financial years, as published in the Councils Accounts, were:

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure	131,699	124,354	129,657	148,772	168,691
Receipts	32,710	27,198	38,400	44,128	61,904

'The Design Council currently employs eight full-time industrial design officers and six field officers in England. In Wales there is one full-time field officer.

'One full-time industrial design officer and one field officer is currently employed in Scotland by the Design Council.'

Consumer protection

Mr. Ioan L. Evans (Aberdare) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would consider measures for improving consumer protection at a national level and at a local level with a network of local advice.

Mrs. Williams answered: 'I announced on 10 September the Government's intention to establish a National Consumers' Agency. I have been encouraging Local Authorities to expand their services to consumers; and a nationwide network of Consumer Advice Centres is now taking shape to complement the Citizens' Advice Bureaux. About a dozen of these centres have been opened since March, and there are expected to be many more by the end of next year.'

Consumer Credit Act

Mr. Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked if the Consumer Credit Act would be extended to require an agency selling information about an individual to inform the person that this is being done.

'No Sir,' answered Mr. Williams, 'the Consumer Credit Act, when made effective, will give consumers a right to be told on request the name of any credit reference agency consulted about them. They will also have a right to know what the agency has on file, a right to have false information rectified and a right to have such revisions notified to anyone who had been given the wrong information in the previous six months. These rights will be publicised.'

Safety of electrical equipment

Mrs. Joyce Butler (Wood Green) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would consider the need for a committee to advise her on matters relating to the safety of electrical equipment for use in the home.

Mr. Williams answered: 'I have decided to set up an Advisory Committee on the Safety of Household Electrical Equipment to advise me on matters in this field for which I am responsible, with particular reference to the administrative guidance to be issued by my Department from time to time concerning the proposed Electrical Appliances (Safety) Regulations which I hope to lay before the House shortly. The committee, on which consumer, trade and other interests will be represented, will be appointed as soon as possible.'

Price Code

Mr. Giles Shaw (Pudsey) asked why relief from provisions of the Price Code had been given to sugar refiners under Statutory Instrument No. 1793, but no relief had been given to food manufacturers using sugar.

'There were two main reasons for the decision to shorten the 28 days notification period for the sugar refiners,' answered Mr. Maclennan. 'Firstly, the increased price for sugar supplied under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement dated back to 1 September, and made it necessary for the refiners to recover excess costs on earlier shipments as well as the higher costs for current supplies. Secondly, a price equalisation scheme had to be introduced quickly to avoid distortion of competition in the food industry and inequity between different groups of consumers. I consider that these circumstances are unique.'

Food prices

Mr. Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, was satisfied that the resources available to her department are sufficient to protect the consumer against rising prices.

'I have never claimed that a single department, or even Government, can wholly stand world inflation,' answered Mrs. Williams. 'Action already taken by my Department includes the food subsidy programme, the strengthening of the Price Code, a voluntary agreement with retail organisations and action against restricted agreements in the service industries.'

Mr. D. R. Hurd (Mid-Oxon) wanted to know by how much food prices rose in the United Kingdom between January 1973 and October 1974; and what proportion of this rise was attributable to British membership of the European Economic Community.

Mrs. Williams answered: 'The further we get from the date of entry into the Community, the harder it is to calculate what food prices would have been if we had stayed out. The food price index rose by 29.2 per cent between January 1973 and September 1974. Official estimates now show that food prices are on balance very slightly lower than they would have been were we not members of the Community.'

Mr. Emlyn Hooson (Montgomery) inquired about the publication of the report of the Price Commission on the difference between the price paid

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

to farmers in markets for fatstock and the price charged over the counter to customers.

Mrs. Williams said: 'As I explained in my reply to the Member for North Cornwall on 8 November, the in-depth study of meat and poultry prices on which the Price Commission is now engaged is complex and bound to take some time. But I have asked the Chairman of the Commission to give it top priority.'

Mr. S. G. Thorne (Preston South) asked if a freeze would be established on prices of essential goods, particularly food and household goods, backed by law.

'No, Sir,' answered Mr. Maclennan. 'Costs have risen sharply in the past year, for example imported food by 17 per cent. A freeze in these circumstances would only lead to serious shortages in the shops, bankruptcies, and put jobs at risk.'

Food subsidies

Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked if any upper limit would be set to the increase in food subsidies.

'Under Section 1 of the Prices Act 1974, the total expenditure on food subsidies may not exceed £700 million,' answered Mrs. Williams. 'If further funds are required Parliamentary approval will be sought in the usual way.'

Mrs. Williams was questioned by Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) on her plans for extending the range and increasing the magnitude of food subsidies.

'My Hon. Friend will be aware that new subsidies on tea and flour were introduced in the Parliamentary Recess,' she answered. 'I have no immediate plans for extending the food subsidies programme at present.'

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) wanted to know the estimated percentage of expenditure on food subsidies in the current financial year going to households with incomes of less than £40 per week.

Mrs. Williams answered that, on the basis of patterns of consumption recorded in the latest Family Expenditure Survey, an estimated 33 per cent of the benefit would be received by such households. In general, as a result of changes in taxation, the net benefit of the Government's expenditure on subsidies goes to the lower income groups.

A similar question was put by Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) who asked to be told the total estimated cost of food subsidies in 1974; and the proportion of these subsidies going to families earning less than the average national wage.

Mr. Williams answered that the estimated expenditure on food subsidies in the calendar year 1974 was £340 million, of which about one half was expected to go to families with incomes below the national average.

'What is the weekly saving to each family afforded by current food subsidies? asked Mr. Hal Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch).

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'On the basis of the National Food Survey results for the second quarter of 1974. the estimated saving for a typical family of two adults and two children is about 85p per week.'

Mr. Churchill (Stretford) inquired the cost of food subsidies in the past six months; and the estimated cost of maintaining currently subsidised food stuffs at their present price for the next six months.

'Expenditure on food subsidies in the period from April to September 1974 amounted to £180 million', said Mr. Maclennan. 'The estimated cost of maintaining subsidies at their present levels and at present costs for the six months from October 1974 to March 1975 is £320 million.'

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection is satisfied with the present level of subsidy on White Stilton cheese.

'Yes, sir,' replied Mr. Maclennan. 'The rate of subsidy, which has been increased to £188 per ton with effect from today to offset EEC decisions on farm prices, applies to all eligible varieties of cheese including White Stilton.'

North Sea oil

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked how the Secretary of State for Energy, proposed to find the money required to fund State participation in commercial fields in the North Sea.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, replied: 'The amount, timing and method of any payments in this connection will depend on the outcome of negotiations to which we shall be inviting the companies. This will be one of the factors to be considered in deciding how the financial requirements of the public sector as a whole are to be met over the next few years.'

Tuesday, 12 November

Safety of air navigation

Mr. Neville Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington) asked for a statement on the activities of the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation of which the United Kingdom is a member.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered that copies of the 11th Annual Report of the Eurocontrol Organisation summarising its activities during 1973, have been placed in the library of the House.

Import duty on polystyrene film

Mr. Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) asked for the names of the United Kingdom manufacturers making representations concerning restoration of the import duty on polystyrene film.

Mr. Deakins gave the following names.

Iridon Ltd.
British Industrial Plastics Ltd.
Robinson Thermoforming
Doeflex Industries Ltd.
Plastic Vacuum Forming Ltd.

Sugar supplies

Mr. Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what discussions she has had with representatives of independent and multiple retailers, and with what results, to ensure that retirement pensioners are able to purchase regular and normal supplies of sugar, and whether she would discuss with multiple grocery retailers the introduction of a voluntary sugar allocation scheme to ensure regular and adequate supplies to retirement pensioners.

Mrs. Williams said: 'I have asked grocery trade associations representing both independent and multiple retailers to remind their members of the importance, when sharing out sugar supplies fairly, of making special arrangements for the more vulnerable sectors of the population, such as pensioners. I believe that retailers generally are willingly co-operating in this.'

Government aid for private industry

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) inquired about the total Government subsidy to private industry in England, Scotland and Wales, respectively, during each of the years since 1970.

Mr. Meacher gave the following information:

£ million at historic prices and net of repayments

	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74
England	540	506	351	405
Scotland	134	128	122	121
Wales	69	65	52	59
Unallocated	177	121	121	112
Total	920	820	646	697

For some programmes no breakdown is available, and this is shown as 'unallocated'. This heading includes overseas expenditure.

Concorde

Mr. Iain MacCormick (Argyll) asked if steps would be taken to ensure that future Concorde test flights would not overfly the islands and mainland of West Scotland.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The West Coast route is the only one which combines the necessary technical and safety requirements with the minimum public disturbance, and a limited number of further flights along it will be needed.'

Diving regulations

Mr. David Crouch asked the Secretary of State for Energy, if he would introduce regulations to safeguard the health of those engaged in saturation diving.

Mr. Varley replied: 'Regulations providing for the safety of divers operating in connection with offshore installations on the UK Continental Shelf were made on 22 July 1974, and will come into operation on 1 January 1975. Provisions are included relating to saturation diving; this may not take place unless the techniques to be used and the procedures to be followed have been notified to, and approved by, me, and diving contractors have obtained my approval for any decompression tables that they propose to use. I also intend to bring before the House legislation enabling me to control the safety of diving operations connected with the laying and maintenance of submarine pipelines.

'I understand that my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Trade also proposes to introduce Regulations covering diving operations from UK-registered vessels.'

Advertising in 'Trade and Industry'

Inquiries about advertising in *Trade and Industry* should be addressed to HMSO, Room C70, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1BN. (Tel. 01-248 9876, ext. 6147).

Wednesday, 13 November

Financial assistance to industry

Questions were asked by Sir Bernard Braine (South East Essex) on the total value of assistance given or promised to firms under the Industry Act 1972, showing separarately each firm which has received or been promised such aid with dates the commitment was made, and the amount paid or committed, and the main terms and conditions in each case; and on the general criteria by which it is judged whether or not to give assistance under the Industry Act 1972 to companies; and the criteria applying in respect of each company which the Government have taken a decision to assist since 1 March 1974.

Mr. Heffer gave the following information up to 30 September 1974:

Industry Act

Part I: £203 million has been paid in regional development grants in response to 48,600 applications involving capital expenditure of £1,360 million.

Part II: Section 7: 1,498 offers of regional selective assistance were made in respect of projects expected to cost £1,065 million to provide 116,000 new jobs. Payments made total £76 million.

Section 8: Selective assistance worth £16 million has been offered in respect of five projects. (These offers were additional to the sums made available under the Wool Textile Industry Scheme and the North Sea Credit Scheme details of which were announced to the House on 19 July and 6 November 1973 respectively.) Payments made total £8 million.

Part III: Section 11: Grants totalling £35 million have been paid for construction of ships and offshore installations.

'I regret that for reasons of commercial confidentiality I am not able to list all the firms to whom offers were made and to give details of relevant terms and conditions,' said Mr. Heffer. 'However, the names of companies who accept offers of regional selective assistance of £10,000 or more after 31 July will be published in the journal *Trade and Industry* in the quarter after the first payment is made in accordance with the arrangements announced to the House by the Secretary of State on that date.

'The general criteria governing assistance under the Industry Act are published in the Annual Reports to Parliament under Section 16 of the Act. As I stated to the House on 29 April 1974, the policy of the Government is to continue and develop these incentives and the new Industry Act is being introduced for that purpose.'

Industrial investment

A table was asked for by Mr. Clement Freud (Isle of Ely) showing the level of investment for each worker in British manufacturing industry in each of the last 10 years contrasting them with comparable figures for the USA, Japan and our EEC partners.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The information is given in the following table but the figures should not be used for any precise comparisons because of all the differences in coverage and definition to which attention is drawn in the notes. There is also the basic difficulty that market exchange rates may not be satisfac:ory for converting figures to a common currency.'

Food subsidies

Mr. Timothy Raison (Aylesbury) asked for an estimate of the amount being saved by the average family per week on each item of food currently in receipt of subsidy.

Mr. Maclennan answered that, on the basis of the results of the National Food Survey for the second quarter of 1974, the estimated weekly saving for a typical family of two adults and two children was as follows:

Bread	11p
Milk	48p
Butter	11½p
Cheese	10½p
Household flour	1p
Tea	3½p

Price rises

Mr. Raison also asked by what percentage the items encompassed by the voluntary agreement with the retail trade have collectively risen in price since the agreement was introduced; and by what percentage they have risen if items subject to seasonal fluctuation are excluded.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'The list of goods on continuous offer by retailers fell in price by 1.4 per cent between May and September 1974, the latest months for which figures are available; this compares with a rise in the Retail Prices Index of 3.2 per cent. Excluding seasonal items – home-killed lamb, fresh fruit and vegetables – the collective price of the goods on this list increased by 1.0 per cent compared with an increase of 3.5 per cent in the Index of All Items less seasonal food.'

Insurance against inflation

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked which EEC countries enable exporters to insure against inflation; and for an indication of the schemes adopted.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The French and Italian Governments at present operate some arrangements in respect of increases in the manufacturing costs of export contracts for capital goods. The Italian scheme is newer

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY – INVESTMENT PER WORKER 1963-72

£ per head, current prices

	UK	USA	Japan	France	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	Luxembourg	Belgium	Denmark	Eire
	(a)		(b)	(1) (c)		(2)	(2) (3) (d)		(e)		
1963	122	330	183	283	*214*	184	229	..	222	217	159
1964	138	385	202	304	*230*	156	283	..	229	253	162
1965	158	444	163	318	*256*	131	298	..	261	284	198
1966	166	503	191	346	*257*	150	347	..	307	273	204
1967	167	534	288	372	*247*	173	376	..	321	297	211
1968	181	599	402	440	*278*	221	445	..	339	271	264
1969	209	652	502	497	*372*	251	474	..	386	347	320
1970	239	687	555	569	*490*	308	623	..	484	..	358
1971	272•	713	513	623	*521*	339	675	..	508	..	..
1972	273	759	599	..	*537*	364	703	..	..	..	..

• New employment series from 1971; 1971 figure on old basis = 254.
.. Not available.

Notes I. Because of the lack of official figures for investment in German manufacturing industry, investment per worker has been taken from an unofficial publication (see below). The employment figures in this publication are very much lower than those in the ILO yearbook and if the latter are used in conjunction with the same total investment, the figures of investment per worker would be much lower than given above, eg 1972 would be 411 £/head.
II. Other known differences between countries' investment and employment data noted below. There are almost certainly other differences due to definitions, methods of compilation, etc.
III. All investment figures converted to £ sterling using average rates of exchange in each year.

Footnotes referring to investment
(1) includes fishing and quarrying of building materials, and construction
(2) includes mining and quarrying, construction, gas, electricity and water – employment figures cover same industries
(3) classified by user, not owner

Footnotes referring to employment
(a) employment figures not consistent over period; major break due to change from National Insurance card count to Census noted at •
(b) sampling design revised from 1967; figures exclude Okinawa prefecture
(c) manufacturing and construction only – not consistent with investment figures
(d) man-years
(e) including persons working abroad, about 3½ per cent of total labour force in 1971

Sources: Investment: National Accounts of OECD countries 1961-72: OECD, Paris and National Income and National Expenditure: HMSO, London. Except Germany: 'Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschug', Berlin, 1973
Employment: Yearbook of Labour Statistics, 1973; ILO, Geneva.
Exchange rate: Annual Abstract of Statistics, 1973; HMSO, London and International Financial Statistics; IMF, Washington.

and somewhat more restrictive than the French scheme.

'In return for a fee, the Governments concerned refund the cost of increases in the prices of labour and materials should these rise beyond a stipulated threshold. The first part of cost increases is met by the exporters. The French Government's arrangements are not available for exports to other EEC Member States, but it is not yet clear whether the Italian arrangements will be similarly limited.'

Mr. Skeet then asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would enable ECGD to ensure British exporters against changes in exchange rates and depreciation in money values due to inflation.

'Where exporters do not invoice in sterling, general protection against exchange fluctuations is already available through the London Foreign Exchange Market,' answered Mr. Deakins. 'Since ECGD facilities provide access to finance, this already helps exporters to avoid many of the problems and costs involved in waiting for credit payments to be made.'

ECGD facilities

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked for a list of the countries for which the facilities of the Export Credit Guarantees Department are restricted or are not available.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'For different reasons, the facilities of ECGD are not available at the present time for Ghana and Rhodesia. In the 182 markets covered by the Department's facilities the amount or quality of cover available depends on the assessments of the buyer and political risk in individual markets at any particular time.'

Thursday, 14 November

Newspaper profits in Scotland

Mrs. Margaret Bain (East Dunbartonshire) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what, from published figures, he estimated to have been the total profit made by daily newspapers in Scotland at the last convenient date; and what was the value of Government and other public sector advertising as a percentage of this profit.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'Information is not available from published accounts showing separately profits made by daily newspapers in Scotland; the nearest information available is the total profits from all activities of the seven companies which publish the 11 main Scottish daily newspapers. According to their latest accounts filed with the Register of Companies in Edinburgh, relating mainly to accounting years ending in 1973, their total profits before tax and extraordinary items were £8.1 million. Expenditure on advertising by the public sector is not known centrally. Questions on advertising carried out on behalf of Government Departments are the responsibility of the Civil Service Department.'

National tourist policy

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what his response was to the call of the British Tourist Authority, set out in their Annual Report for the year ended March 1974, for the Government to formulate a national tourist policy.

Mr. Shore answered: 'I am considering with my Rt. Hon. Friends, the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales, what further guidance needs to be given to the British Tourist Authority and the three National Tourist Boards on promoting the development of tourism to and within Great Britain.'

HS 146

Mr. Paul B. Rose (Manchester, Blackley) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry, would ensure that the licence to build engines or frames for the HS 146 will not be given to any overseas country pending the nationalisation of the aero-space industry, and if he will take steps to ensure that the facilities and plant for manufacturing new aero-space projects, not so far manufactured under licence abroad, will remain in Great Britain pending the nationalisation of the aero-space industry.

Mr. Meacher said: 'Under the contract between the Government and Hawker Siddeley Aviation on the HS 146 the company needs the consent of the Government before disposing of jigs and tools, issuing licences, etc., in connection with the project.

'Generally as regards the safeguarding of assets to be nationalised I would refer the Hon. Member to my statement in the Debate

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on the Address on 4 November 1974 (OR col. 714/5).'

Films

Mrs. Dunwoody (Crewe) asked how many feature films, and of what value, were exported to Great Britain by India during the first three quarters of 1973-74; and how many British films, and of what value, were exported to India in that period.

Mr. Deakins said: 'Feature films are not separately distinguished in the United Kingdom overseas trade statistics; Indian statistics show the value of this trade and available figures are as follows:

		Indian Exports to United Kingdom £ thousand fob	Indian Imports from United Kingdom £ thousand cif
1973	1st quarter	80	—
	2nd quarter	12	0.5
	3rd quarter	132	2.0
1974	1st quarter	276	0.0

Notes:
1 0.0 = less than £100; — = no trade.
2 Source: Indian Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade.
3 Rate of exchange: 18.71 rupees = £1.

HMSO price increases

Mr. Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley) asked if the proposed price increases of Her Majesty's Stationery Office had been submitted to the Price Commission.

'Yes,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'The increases were considered by the Price Commission under paragraph 88 of the Price Code.'

Polyurethane foam

Mr. Ronald Brown (Hackney South and Shoreditch) referred to a recent fire in a Government establishment where a store containing polyurethane foam was gutted, resulting in the death of two firemen, and asked if it would now be made policy to treat polymeric materials as being as dangerous as other combustibles found in the home.

Mr. Williams replied: 'I intend to review the degree of hazard presented by polymeric materials in the home, in the light of the findings of current research being carried out by the Rubber and Plastics Research Association. If the detailed report on the recent tragic fire to which my Hon. Friend refers reveals any new information, this will be taken into account.'

Shipbuilding

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked up to what size shipbuilding yards will be excluded from nationalisation.

Mr. Meacher said that the Government's provisional view, stated in the Discussion Paper issued in July, is that shipbuilding companies employing fewer than approximately 1,000 workers should not come into public ownership.

Mr. Wilson also asked whether the Robb Caledon Shipbuilding Yard in Dundee is included in his plans for the nationalisation of shipbuilding.

'The Discussion Paper issued in July, setting out the Government's provisional views, suggested that Robb Caledon Shipbuilders Ltd., should be among the companies taken into public ownership,' said Mr. Meacher.

Motor car industry

Mr. Sydney Tierney (Birmingham, Yardley) wanted to know the rate of growth in production in the motor car industry during the last year available; and the anticipated growth rate during the following 12 months.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'Production of complete motor cars decreased by 8 per cent between 1972 and 1973 and, on the basis of figures up to September 1974, is expected to fall a further 10 per cent this year. These figures do not take into account separate production of car parts and accessories which cannot be distinguished from those of commercial vehicles. Total output of parts and accessories increased by 9 per cent in 1973, and is expected to fall by a similar percentage in 1974.'

Coal industry

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked the Secretary of State for Energy, the total amount of capital investment planned for the coal industry over the next 10 years; and what amounts and proportions of that investment are provisionally earmarked for Scotland, England and Wales, respectively.

Mr. Eadie replied: 'In the light of the Coal Industry Examination, the Government has endorsed the National Coal Board's Plan for Coal as a general strategy. The Plan envisages investment in deep-mined production over the next 10 years of some £600 million in addition to continuing annual requirements of £70 million to £80 million.

'It is too early for specific amounts to be earmarked for particular geographical areas. However, Plan for Coal investment already approved includes projects in all the main coalfields including Scotland and South Wales.'

Employment in Welsh steel industry

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) wanted to know how many people were employed in that part of the steel industry in Wales which was nationalised (a) immediately prior to nationalisation in 1967, and (b) in 1973, respectively.

In reply, Mr. Meacher said that in June 1967, 65,400 people were employed in iron- and steel-making activities in Wales in firms which were now nationalised. In June 1973, the British Steel Corporation employed 63,200 people on iron- and steel-making activities in Wales.

Assistance for computer industry

Mr. David Lambie (Central Ayrshire) asked what assistance the Department of Industry was prepared to give to the British computer industry.

Mr. Benn answered: 'ICL have recently announced the formation of a new leasing finance company, Midland-ICL Leasing Ltd., under an agreement with Midland Montague Leasing Ltd., a member of the Midland Bank Group. At the request of ICL, the Government has agreed to extend to the new arrangement with the Midland Bank the support announced by the Minister for Aerospace on 30 July 1971 in respect of an agreement for leasing finance between ICL and Computer Leasing Ltd. Accordingly, in September the Midland Bank was informed that the Government would be prepared to assist ICL in fulfilling its obligations under the new agreement.'

Safeguarding income bonds

Mr. Ivor Stanbrook (Bromley, Orpington) inquired if the Secretary of State for Trade would take steps to safeguard the security of guaranteed income bonds.

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. NRDC is participating in joint ventures with industry on an increasing scale. By supporting projects NRDC makes it possible for individual firms or groups of companies to undertake and accelerate the development and production of new products and processes of national importance. The corporation welcomes submissions in confidence from firms who have promising new projects to launch in any branch of industry or commerce. The conditions for its considering proposals of this kind are set out in a leaflet which may be obtained on application, either by writing to the National Research Development Corporation, PO Box 236, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or by telephoning 01-823 3400.

Guaranteed Income Bonds were one of the types of insurance for consideration within the context of the legislation announced in the Queen's Speech, replied Mr. Clinton Davis.

Friday, 15 November

Steel industry

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) wanted to know the revised cost of the BSC £3,000 million 10 year development programme as a result of recent inflationary trends (Command Paper No. 5226).

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The British Steel Corporation's £3,000 million programme was costed at March 1972 prices. Up to September 1974 the Corporation had undertaken capital expenditure worth some £360 million, at out-turn prices, since publication of their Development Strategy in February 1973. They estimate that if the remainder of their original programme were now recosted at September 1974 prices to take account of inflation, the effect might be to raise the total cost to £4,030 million. The content of the programme of course is being continually updated. Any real extra cost to the BSC will be incurred only if increased money costs of planned capital investment exceed the rise in money revenues consequent upon inflation.'

Beef prices

Mr. Wyn Roberts (Conway) asked for an investigation of the beef slaughtering and marketing system and the question of why the low prices obtained by farmers are not reflected in prices paid by the consumer.

'I have already asked the Price Commission to give top priority to the study of meat and poultry they are undertaking,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'This will include an examination of how beef prices are made up between farm gate and consumer.'

BOTB News

Picture shows (left to right foreground) J. H. Macauley, General Electric Co., Leicester; S. K. Cheong, General Electric Co., Singapore; Professor Dr. Widjojo Nitisastro, Indonesian State Minister for Economy, Finance and Industry; R. H. Atkinson General Electric Co., London. The picture was taken on the GEC stand during the Minister's tour after he opened the British Industrial Exhibition in Jakarta. The exhibition was sponsored by BOTB.

Successes reported from Indonesia

British firms that participated in the British Industrial Exhibition in Jakarta report a total of £200,000 worth of firm orders received for goods and equipment during the course of the seven-day event.

More than 30 companies displayed a wide range of technical goods and industrial equipment in Indonesia with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board. They attracted over 5,000 business visitors from Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and New Guinea, as well as from all over Indonesia.

The firms felt the exhibition was a useful launching pad to expand British trade with Indonesia and other parts of South-East Asia. Many exhibitors received serious business inquiries which they are confident will soon be transformed into definite orders.

A round-up of exhibitors' comments on the event includes: 'It was extremely worthwhile; we even sold all the display materials on the stand. We have made very useful business contacts and discussions: future orders look promising. We were impressed by the high level of interest and technical competence of the visitors and by the friendliness of the people'.

This event, which closed last week, was the first ever British Industrial Exhibition to be held in Indonesia.

A bridge between Government and industry

The British Overseas Trade Board formed a bridge between Government and industry said J. S. Rooke, the Board's chief executive, addressing the Federation of Sussex Industries at Hove last Friday. The Board sought to explain Government policies to firms and tranmit back to the Government the views of industry. Topics recently discussed had included pricing policies, proposals for the taxation of foreign exchange earnings, and possible shortages of intermediate products resulting from Price Commission policies.

Also, the Board was discussing and working out with industry a long-term strategic approach to overseas trade expansion, which had involved them in a Product Selection Exercise, matching markets and commodities; an examination of the procurement policies of the nationalised industries, and consideration of the export potential for new products – an exercise called Innovation and Exports. Thirdly, the Board was responsible for the direction and administration of a wide range of day-to-day practical services for exporters.

More export office procedure courses in Scotland

Dates and locations of Export Office Procedure Courses in Scotland, organised by the Training Services Agency with the support of the Department of Trade, have been announced for the first half of 1975.

The first course of the series, 13-17 January 1975, will be held in Glasgow. Others to follow are: 27-31 January, Dundee; 17-21 February, Edinburgh; 24-28 February, Glasgow; 10-14 March, Glenrothes; 31 March-4 April, Glasgow; 5-9 May, Glasgow; 9-13 June, Edinburgh; 23-27 June, Glasgow.

Inquiries in connection with these courses should be directed to R. Mathieson, Training Services Agency, Office for Scotland, Stuart House, 30 Semple Street, Edinburgh EH3 8YX; tel. 031-229 2491, ext. 150.

The courses have two main objectives: to enable students to gain experience in office procedure and documentation associated with exporting; to show them how to pass on this acquired knowledge effectively.

Sessions deal with essential aspects of exporting procedure; export sales office functions; EEC; making a contract; export shipping office functions; containerisation; documentation; aids to exporters; bills of lading; documentary letters of credit; bills of exchange; and air freight.

Each course lasts four full days beginning on a Monday at 14.00 hours and ending on Friday at 12.30 hours. Fees are normally £35 excluding VAT; but fees will be waived in respect of students attending from companies within development/intermediate areas, which takes in the whole of Scotland.

The courses are non-residential and firms make their own arrangements for hotel accommodation.

Canada West seminars

Following the seminars which are being held at the Birmingham, London, Glasgow and Sheffield Chambers of Commerce and the Department of Industry Regional Office, Manchester, 25 November-3 December, to alert industry to the potential for exports arising from the exploitation of the Athabasca Tar Sands, Alberta, the Consul (Commercial), Edmonton, G. Miles, OBE, will be remaining in England for a short period to answer any follow-up queries which firms may have.

Contact can be made with him at Department of Industry regional offices at: Leeds, tel. (0532) 443171, 4 December; Manchester, tel. (061) 2362171, 5 December; London, Export House, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 612, 6 December.

Missions and Tours

Indian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom B. K. Nehru visited the Motherwell works of Anderson Mavor Ltd. and met members of a mission leaving for Delhi, Hyderabad and Calcutta. The mission, organised by the Association of British Mining Equipment Exporters and supported by British Overseas Trade Board, was led by Anderson Mavor's R. M. Clive. As well as Mr. Clive, the High Commissioner met C. G. Hodgart of Fullerton, Hodgart and Barclay of Paisley and P. D. Guest of Wallacetown Engineering Co. of Ayr. Here, Mr. Nehru (left) and his son (right) are pictured with Anderson Mavor managing director R. H. Thorpe and Assistant High Commissioner Rear Admiral H. D. Kapadia.

Scottish Council makes trade trip to People's Republic of China

For the second time in three years Lord Clydesmuir, president and chairman of the Scottish Council, is leading a trade mission of businessmen to the People's Republic of China. The first tour, made in November 1971, was the first ever UK trade visit to the People's Republic and resulted in substantial orders for Scottish companies. This second visit is a direct result of satisfactory trade relationships established at that time, since developed and extended.

The group, made up of 12 Scottish manufacturers representing engineering, electronics, aviation and agricultural industries, returns to London this week. Members of the group expected to visit other centres in China during their stay but plans could not be finalised until their arrival in Peking.

Donald Reid, marketing manager for the Council and manager of the mission, said: 'This second visit represents a welcome opportunity to enable an additional group of Scottish manufacturers to obtain first-hand experience of how to conduct business with the People's Republic of China. Experience has shown that not until proper trading relationships have been established can there be any hope of securing orders.'

Apart from Lord and Lady Clydesmuir and Mr. Reid, the mission includes: R. A. Pearce, director – sales and marketing, William Beardmore and Co. Ltd., Glasgow; Dr. J. Rorke, managing director, Brown Bros. and Co. Ltd., Edinburgh; A. Bentley, director, Burmah Oil Trading Ltd., Glasgow; B. Phillimore, divisional director, Hall Thermotank International Ltd., Glasgow; H. Porter, joint managing director, Motherwell Bridge (Holdings) Ltd., Motherwell; A. Shepherd, group commercial manager, Nuclear Enterprises Ltd., Edinburgh; Dr. W. G. Watson, director and chief engineer, Scottish Aviation Ltd., Prestwick; A. Merrills, chairman and managing director, Ireland Alloys Ltd., Hamilton; J. M. Swanney, deputy director of cattle breeding services, Scottish Milk Marketing Board, Scone; W. Knight, sales manager – chain division, Wheway Watson Ltd., Hillington; P. D. Guest, marketing manager, Wallacetown Engineering Co. Ltd., Ayr; L. H. Worrall, technical sales director, Begg Cousland and Co. Ltd., Glasgow.

Ontario party seeks contacts in Britain

Business contacts for manufacture under licence in Britain of consumer, commercial and industrial products will be sought by representatives of eight companies from Ontario who arrive in London this week.

They are travelling as members of a licensing mission sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Industry and Tourism and organised through its Business Development Branch at Ontario House, London.

All are senior company executives, and, in addition to seeking licensing and marketing link-ups with British firms, some will be considering setting up new full-scale manufacturing facilities in the UK through joint venture agreements.

Products represented cover glass-fibre houseboats, factory-built re-locatable homes and work camp units, women's high fashion handbags, an 'in-store' home-made bread production unit, wire buckles for use with synthetic strapping, patented 'in-cup' beverage system, aluminium dump trailers, portion filling and packaging machinery, as well as a range of injection-moulded plastics and fibre products for hospital and portion food pack use.

Exhibitions and Fairs

British fashions take a bow at Munich show

From W. R. Jupe, British Vice-Consul (Commercial), Munich: The 30th Munich Fashion Week, 6-10 October, attracted 1,510 exhibitors from 24 countries. Britain, with 38 exhibiting firms, again took 4th place in the list of foreign exhibitors behind France, Italy and Austria. Switzerland and Finland followed some way behind. The fair authorities are stressing more than ever the international face of the fair.

British influence was seen throughout the fairgrounds as hostesses paraded their uniforms for which Bacon had supplied the kilts and Lillygould the blouses. British fashions also opened the official fashion show and were well received by the audience.

Twenty-five British firms (*some stands pictured above*) participated in a joint venture, between the Clothing Export Council of Great Britain and the British Overseas Trade Board, and the majority exhibited in a spring/summer collection with varying degrees of success. Some British firms did very well and others, while not writing big business, opened many potentially valuable new accounts.

The knitwear market after 18 sticky months appears to be recovering and it is hoped by British producers that this trend will continue. Furs and leathers did very good business, as did blouses, expensive fashioned design dresses, coats and suits. Producers of denims and tee shirts, after three very successful years, found the market had become much more difficult.

It soon became clear that the trend in ladies' fashions is towards well-designed suits, co-ordinates and dresses and away from gimmicky fashions. Customers were being more selective in their buying and preferring less casual fashions than had been usual for the past few seasons. Also noticeable was the return of the tendency for ladies to dress up (rather than down) when going out for the evening.

Although the Munich Fashion Week was not a successful show for some British exhibitors, many of whom have indicated that next spring when the Paris and Munich events clash they would prefer to show at Paris, there is no doubt that Munich will continue to be a very major show for British companies selling to the world in general and German-speaking Europe in particular.

The next Munich Fashion Week takes place 6-10 April 1975.

Design display in a French textile centre

From J. L. Hobbs, Commercial Section, British Consulate-General, Lille: Following their recent successful show in Amsterdam, British designers took a prominent place in the International Design Exhibtiion held in the Palais de la Bourse, Lille, 16-18 October. The responsibility for organising the British contingent was again taken by MST Design Associates whose collaboration with the Lille-Roubaix-Tourcoing Chamber of Commerce provided the genesis for the exhibition.

This was the first design show of its kind to be held in Lille, capital of Northern France's textile industry, and was the result of a visit to the Amsterdam exhibition by Madame Delannoy, head of the local Chamber of Commerce's information centre for fibres and fabrics.

Of the 51 exhibitors, 31 were French and 11 British, the remainder coming from Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, West Germany.

From the British point of view, the effort was well worthwhile. All our designers were able to make valuable contracts and secure worthwhile orders.

Geneva: scientists see developments in UK equipment

From the British Consulate-General, Geneva: CERN, 21-25 October. This wholly-British exhibition of electronic instrumentation, components and equipment was the fourth to be held at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), Geneva, since 1968. Like its predecessors, the exhibition once again proved an invaluable means of demonstrating the latest advances in British equipment to the many hundreds of scientists and engineers employed at CERN.

It was sponsored by the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association on behalf of the Measurement, Control and Automation Conference and by the British Overseas Trade Board. During the exhibition BEAMA gave a reception for exhibitors and CERN officials, which was hosted by W. D. H. Gregson, CBE, chairman of MCAC and assistant general manager of Ferranti Ltd., Edinburgh.

Among the 14 firms exhibiting were AEI Semiconductors Ltd., which displayed high power diodes and thyristors; Beckman Instruments Ltd., with a range of electronic components including potentiometers, resistor packages and flatpack networks for high density application; British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd., with various special cables including compensating, radio-frequency and control types.

The EMI Electronics Ltd. stand showed a range of light sensing and light emitting devises, while English Electric Valve Co. Ltd. showed a complete range of hydrogen thyratrons. GEC Computers Ltd. displayed the GEC 4080 digital computer which was used for batch-processing of prepared punch card data during the exhibition by CERN, Grenson Electronics Ltd. its range of CAMAC and NIM power crates and Isopad Ltd. its complete range of electric surface heating equipment. Latest NIM and CAMAC modules were exhibited by Nuclear Enterprises Ltd., as well as health physics instruments and scintillation detectors.

Nuclear medical and health physics instruments were included on the stand of D. A. Pitman Ltd. and Solartron Electronic Group Ltd. presented the Series 3 data logging system. The stand of 20th Century Electronics Ltd. displayed a range of analytical instruments, photomultipliers tubes and silicon photodiodes and Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd. gave prominence to its semiconductors for specialised applications. Last but not least, Willsher and Quick Ltd. exhibited its range of mechanical housings for electronics, including CAMAC and NIM crates, and a range of racks specifically designed for CERN.

Most of the exhibitors are already regular suppliers to CERN but all agreed that the event provided a unique opportunity for them to meet many engineers and scientists in this vast organisation of some 3,500 people who are the potential users of their equipment. Senior officials of CERN have since expressed a keen appreciation of the advanced technological content of the exhibition and also of the high level of technical competence displayed by the representatives manning the stands.

The value of CERN purchases of British equipment has been rising in recent years, mainly as a result of a number of large heavy engineering contracts for the 300 GeV accelerator under construction in CERN Laboratory II. During the years 1972-73, total purchases from Britain amounted to some Sw. Frs. 75 million and during the first nine months of 1974 some Sw. Frs. 35 million. There is no reason why purchases should not be maintained at this level for the next two-three years and, clearly, there are many opportunities for those British companies prepared to meet the highly specialised requirements of this organisation.

Every effort is made by the British Overseas Trade Board to publicise details of forthcoming CERN tenders, advance details of which are automatically distributed through the Export Intelligence Service. However, CERN purchases for less than Sw. Frs. 200,000 are not subject to tendering procedures and the only sure method by which firms can make themselves known as potential suppliers is to visit CERN and meet the staff engaged in the design, use and purchase of equipment and supplies. If good notice is given of an intended visit, the British Consulate-General in Geneva will always assist with the appropriate introductions.

Electronic equipment shown at Melbourne

From J. Richards, Senior Commercial Officer, British Consulate-General, Melbourne: The 5th International Control, Electronics, Telecommunications, Instruments and Automation Exhibition and Convention took place in Melbourne, 7-11 October. Some 50 companies participated and the British exhibit occupied the prime site.

The British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association sponsored – on behalf of the UK Measurement, Control and Automation Conference and in co-operation with BOTB – a joint display of electrical and electronic equipment from seven United Kingdom manufacturers.

They were: Critchley Bros. Ltd., electronics packaging, including a versatile range of card frames; Crompton Parkinson Ltd., electrical indicating instruments; Environmental Equipments Ltd., a vibration measurement, recording and analysis; Klippon Electricals Ltd., terminal blocks, rail-mounted and panel-mounted, terminal strips and associated connectors; Marconi Instruments Ltd., new 100MHz spectrum analyser, new TF2092C automatic noise receiver plus TV automatic monitoring system PCM and mobile radio testing instruments; Vero Electronics Ltd., universal wiring boards, card frame and modular rack systems; Digico Ltd., micro 16V mini computer system.

Marketing of this advanced technical equipment made a strong impact on the show and this was further enhanced by technical personnel from five British companies who presented papers at the convention associated with the exhibition. These presentations were well attended, particularly the seminar on the Electronic Power Industries which attracted over 200 delegates.

Framed in the centre of the photograph are West German Federal President Walter Scheel (left) and British Ambassador to Bonn Sir Nicholas Henderson. Also shown are (extreme left and right, respectively) Director of the Boersenverein Sigfrid Taubert and the British Council's David Bowen. They are pictured at last month's Frankfurt Book Fair.

Top quality sought at outerwear event

From J. Easton, British Trade Development Office, New York: British tanners visited the USA last month to exhibit an extensive range of clothing leather in the National Outerwear and Sportswear Suppliers Association Show, Statler Hilton Hotel, New York. Fresh from their success at the Semaine Internationale du Cuir in Paris, the group again demonstrated Britain's claim to world leadership in fashion leathers.

The British Overseas Trade Board and the Leather Institute sponsored the group, which featured three well-known Gomshall companies (Gomshall Tanneries Ltd., J. Merideth-Jones and Sons and Union Wool and Leather Co.), together with a complementary collective exhibit, presented by the Leather Institute, of products from other leading British tanneries.

Current economic conditions in the USA have left few sectors of the American clothing industry unaffected but at NOSA the effects were felt almost wholly by exhibitors of low-priced fabrics, with most buyers picking value and quality in their purchases and generally trading up. Sellers of leather, all wool and other quality fabrics were well satisfied with the show and pointed out that in times of economic difficulty consumers tend to look for value for their money in the form of top quality durable apparel.

This theme of quality and durability was demonstrated by an impressive exhibit showing that garments made of British leather can be effectively washed and dry cleaned. The Leather Institute exhibited skins from Pittards and from Nicols, Strong-Fisher, Morlands, Diaphragm and General Leather, Kohnstamm, Light Leather, Barrow Hepburn and Selkirk Tannery. Each skin displayed a label stating whether it was washable, suitable for dry cleaning or both and, to agument this, several made-up leather garments in a semi-cleaned state were very effectively displayed on a 'before' and 'after' basis.

Leather is now competitive in price with synthetic materials for the first time in many years and British tanners expect a continuing demand in the USA for best quality British clothing leathers.

Budapest Spring Fair: BOTB support offered

Companies interested in displaying under the BOTB's support scheme at the Budapest International Spring Fair, 21-29 May next year, a leading East European event covering a wide range of investment goods, are reminded that applications for exhibition space must be submitted by 30 November.

Full details and application forms are available from Mrs. Anne Ray, Fairs and Promotions Branch, Hillgate House, London EC4M 7HU; tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7246.

Genoa's international boat show survives poor economic climate

From H. Blackstone, British Consulate-General, Genoa: The 14th edition of the Genoa Boat Show was held, 18-28 October, somewhat optimistically, in defiance of a series of discouraging factors at present affecting the Italian boating trade and industry. Although the national economic depression, recently imposed sales taxes and import-deterrents, as well as the high cost of fuel, are seriously conditioning many sections of the market, the success of the show was decidedly less limited than had been feared. British boats and equipment once more retained their prestige at this important event, now claimed to be the largest and most complete boat show in the world.

Once again, as regards both participation and attendance, the truly international extent of the exhibition was emphasised. Its constant interest to buyers from all parts of the world helped considerably to maintain a satisfactory volume of resulting business, the greater part of which was transacted towards the end of the show.

Nearly 1,500 exhibitors from 24 countries occupied 135,000 sq. m. of available space. More than 1,500 boats, including 300 of new design, were on show while the equipment and accessories pavilion also housed a similar number of exhibits. Of the 300,000 visitors, 15,000 were non-Italian and included trade delegations from no fewer than 45 countries.

All sections of the British boating industry were, as usual, strongly represented directly or through local agents and an encouraging amount of business and serious inquiries ensued. The BOTB joint venture stands, again sponsored by SBBNF, comprised 15 firms spread over four separate sites with a wide range of items.

Actual sales amounted to more than £300,000; half of this represented small power boats, while £100,000 worth of sailing craft were disposed of. Our equipment, clothing and accessories attracted orders for £54,000 and in all cases there were encouraging prospects of additional business. The 'admiral' of the sailing section was a 71-ft. British yacht which aroused considerable interest and future business is confidently anticipated with clients from several countries.

The reasonably successful overall results of the show, staged in a temporarily unfavourable local economic climate, have undoubtedly helped to establish once more its important significance in the international boating world. It remains an ideal opportunity for attracting trade and private buyers on a world-wide scale and also for establishing contact with potential agents.

The 1975 Genoa Boat Show is planned to take place from 17 to 27 October.

Export Business

Centenary of Scotch is celebrated in Copenhagen

From G. W. Marshall, Commercial Counsellor, British Embassy, Copenhagen: In the 400-year-old cellars of Kong Hans Vingaard, adjoining the Magasin du Nord department store here, the Scotch Whisky Association celebrated, with a reception for 200 guests, a century of Scotch whisky importation to Denmark.

Scotch was probably brought into Denmark by a travelling salesman from Holland in the year 1870 but the first *official* import took place in 1874 when 18 cases of 'Lorne' whisky were sent to Copenhagen by the Greenlee Brothers (now Macdonald Greenless Ltd. of Edinburgh) who appointed William Andersen of the firm of Ole Erik Andersen as their agent.

The importers were in existence 50 years before they handled whisky and today are still leading importers of wines and spirits. The cost per crate of 12 bottles in those days was 16 shillings!

To celebrate the centenary, Donald Mackinlay of the Scotch Whisky Association presented two-gallon casks of special Centenary Scotch to three organisations which have done much to create demand in Denmark for the 'golden drops', as the Danes know it. The recipients were the Danish Whisky Tasters Association, the Danish Wine Writers Guild and the St. Andrew's Society of Denmark.

A fourth cask was opened on the spot and the centenary whisky was sampled by (some of) the guests. The picture above shows British Ambassador A. A. S. Stark and Mrs. Stark among the lucky tasters. Left to right: the Ambassador; D. Mackinlay, Scotch Whisky Association; Mrs. Stark; Richard Grindal, Scotch Whisky Association; Tage la Cour, President of the Danish Whisky Tasters.

The Danes imported Scotch whisky to the value of Kr. 24.8 million (more than £1.75 million) in 1973 and will probably spend more than £2 million on it this year which is not bad considering there can only be about three million drinkers in the country – and they also drink a lot of beer and snaps!

BOTB-aided ventures lead to orders

Confirmed orders valued at £470,000 were secured by R. D. Tuplin, export director of Judge International Housewares Ltd., on his first visit to Japan. Mr. Tuplin was a member of a British Overseas Trade Board outward mission.

With the assistance of the British Embassy in Tokyo, he carried out an intensive market survey and found there were excellent prospects for Judge products. The firm is so impressed with these results that Mr. Tuplin will be returning to Japan early in 1975.

Judge International claims to be the largest producer of domestic ware in Europe, and the Japanese orders are a major breakthrough for the company.

Berox Machine Tool Co. Ltd. took confirmed orders for over £100,000 as a result of exhibiting at the Brno International Engineering Fair. The participation of the British firms was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board.

In addition to the £100,000 of firm orders, Berox had options for a further £50,000 of equipment from Czech buyers. Products sold include 11 turning machines with sophisticated plug board control and an industrial robot machine.

Control gear for Algeria docks

Allenwest Ltd. – Brighton-based electrical engineering concern – has won a contract to supply all the crane control gear to Stothert and Pitt as part of a £1.5 million export order for Algeria.

The order, for 23 10 tonnes capacity rail-mounted electric dockside cranes, is seen as a major export breakthrough, for Algeria is traditionally a buyer of French industrial equipment and this is the first order to be placed for such cranes since it achieved independence in 1962.

Allenwest will supply 23 sets of control gear for installation in the cranes. Two complete cranes will be built by Stothert and Pitt at their Bath works and the major components for the remaining 21 will be shipped to Algeria.

The steel work for these will be fabricated in Algeria to Stothert and Pitt designs by the state-owned heavy engineering organisation, Société Nationale de Constructions Métalliques (SN Metal).

The cranes will be installed in Algiers, Oran and three other major ports in Algeria.

The two UK-assembled cranes are expected to be delivered during 1975 and the total order completed by mid-1976. Allenwest will deliver the first of the control gear to Stothert and Pitt this month.

The Allenwest equipment will control seven ac motors on each crane: three slipring machines to drive the hoist, slew and luff motions, and four squirrel-cage motors acting in pairs for travel along the dockside. The master controllers will be mounted in the driver's cab. Ancillary control equipment – contactor panels, resistances, etc. – are to be located in the crane machinery house.

In the last two years, Allenwest has received 66 orders from Stothert and Pitt for cranes exported to the Middle East, Korea, Greece, Poland and Ethiopia.

Kangol launched a new child's safety harness at this year's Motor Show at Earl's Court to which there has been such an immediate response from the trade that it has had to make arrangements to double production at its Carlisle factory, it is reported. In addition to orders running into many thousands of units for UK retailers, substantial firm orders have already been placed from Austria, Switzerland and Belgium, while provisional orders have been accepted from Denmark, Norway and Finland. This child's safety harness has been designed for use by children weighing 40-80 lbs. (approx. 4½-11 years) and represents the most up-to-date automotive safety device for juveniles, states Kangol. It has a unique padded lap strap to protect the child's stomach, a feature adopted from techniques developed on motor racing harnesses, with a simple yet impressively strong buckle and easy strap adjusters the company reports.

Postage meters and mailing machines for Soviet centres

The first substantial order from Russia for postage meters has been won by Pitney-Bowes Ltd. of Harlow, Essex. Valued at £46,000, the order is for 65 high-speed postage meters and high-speed mailing machines.

The postage meters will be used by the Russian Trade Association of Black Metallurgy in numerous locations throughout the USSR.

Commenting on the order, T. J. Gilligan, managing director of Pitney-Bowes Ltd., said: 'This order follows negotiations which commenced some two years ago with the State import organisation, Technopromimport. The Russian market for this equipment is virtually untapped and I am hopeful that this order will open up considerable commercial opportunities for us.'

Two million chicks are flying to Iraq

In the biggest single export contract ever secured by an international poultry company, Ross Poultry Ltd. will supply two million day-old commercial broilers to Iraq. Gained against world competition, the contract was awarded by the Iraqi Government and will ultimately add an extra 3,500 metric tons of processed chicken to the Iraqi diet. It follows directly upon the sale to Iraq of two million commercial hatching eggs and represents a major breakthrough into yet another developing Arab market.

The two million chicks, in 17 flights of 120,000, will leave Manston Airport, Kent, for Baghdad at weekly intervals between this month and March next year. Transportation is by Vanguard freighter of Invicta International Airlines.

German heater makers take reformer boilers

Airoil Burner Co. Ltd. of West Drayton, Middlesex, has secured export orders in excess of £50,000 from heater manufacturer Claudius Peters of Hamburg.

These are for Airoil's reformer burners and are finally destined for petro-chemical plants in Libya and Turkey.

Electrical plant for Qatar power

Parolle Ltd. (a member of the Reyrolle Parsons Group) has been awarded a contract worth over £1 million for electrical equipment for the initial stage of the 300MW Ras Abu Fontas Power Station in the State of Qatar.

The consultants are Ewbank and Partners Ltd., Brighton. The contract, received from the Qatar Ministry of Electricity and Water, covers the supply of transformers, high-voltage and medium-voltage switchgear, batteries, cabling, etc.

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Trade Information

Romania: currency regulations for visitors

Under regulations (decree 184/1974) which came into effect on 1 November 1974, business and other visitors to Romania are required to exchange into Romanian currency a minimum sum of $10 (or equivalent) per day of stay in Romania. The regulation applies to all foreign visitors from outside the socialist bloc. The following categories are exempted:

Persons engaged in the tourist industry who receive payment through vouchers, hotel coupons, tourist coupons, etc.

Employees of foreign firms who are engaged in the construction or commissioning of plant or in the provision of technical assistance to Romanian enterprises.

Permanent representatives in Romania of foreign commercial companies or economic organisations and of joint venture companies with headquarters in Romania, together with members of their immediate family.

Press, radio and TV correspondents accredited to Romania, together with members of their immediate family.

Persons invited to Romania by Romanian organisations and enterprises, or by international organisations with headquarters in Romania.

Persons studying in Romania.

Children under 14.

Persons entering Romania who wish to claim exemption from the regulations under any of the above categories should carry with them documentary evidence to support their claim for exemption, if possible a letter from a foreign trade enterprise or Romanian Ministry.

Visitors arriving in Bucharest by air will find that they are required to convert the required minimum amount of currency immediately on arrival at Otopeni Airport and before proceeding through immigration and customs.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5267.

Spain gets £1m line of credit

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £1 million line of credit which National Westminster Bank has made available to Banco Atlantico, Spain. The loan will enable buyers to place contracts in the UK for capital goods and associated services on cash terms. UK suppliers will receive 80 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 20 per cent being payable from the buyer's own resources.

Under the terms of the loan a contract must have a minimum value of £10,000 and be placed by 30 April 1976. Repayment of the loan will be over a period of two to five years depending on the individual value of each contract.

Exporters interested in further details should contact either ECGD (A. N. Collins), tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 7335) or the National Westminster Bank (K. F. C. Butt), tel. 01-606 1080, ext. 113.

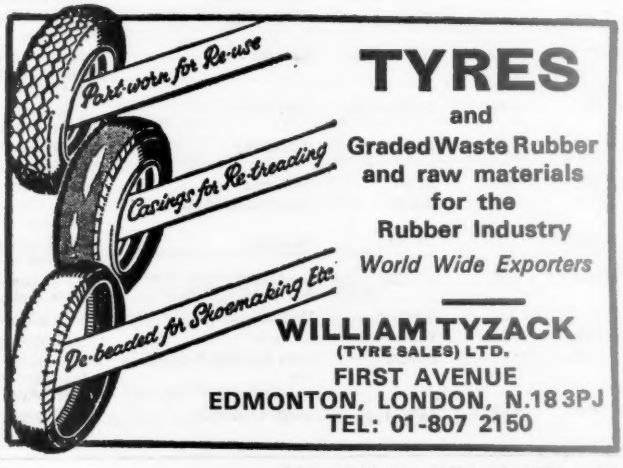
Exports of subsidised cheese

The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection announced on 8 November an increase in the rate of the cheese subsidy to take effect from 11 November 1974. As this subsidy is designed to hold down food prices in the United Kingdom, the rate of recovery on exports will also be increased. With effect from 11 November 1974 the rates will be as follows:

Natural cheese	£188 per ton
Powdered cheese	£316 per ton
Grated cheese	£188 per ton
Imported processed cheese	£169 per ton
Imported cheese spread	£113 per ton

The subsidy on UK manufactured processed cheese and cheese spread will be recovered at a rate equivalent to the cheese content.

Exporters of cheese and cheese products who can demonstrate that their exports after 11 November had in fact been subsidised at the lower rate applicable before that date should draw attention to this when they submit their monthly returns (FSE01) required under the Food Subsidies (Exports) Order 1974 to the Guildford Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Government Buildings, C209, Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 2LD, tel. Guildford 68121, ext. 299 or 279).



ECGD general purpose lines of credit

The table below gives lines of credit guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department under which there is capacity for further export business to be financed out of the credits. Requests for further information should be made to the bank concerned or to Export Credits Guarantee Department, PO Box 272, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL (tel. 01-606 6699, ext. listed in table) specifying the line of credit concerned.

Departmental reference	Tel. ext. at ECGD HQ	Recipient	UK Bank	Purpose	Loan value £m	Minimum single contract value £'000	Final date for entering into contracts
LC 263	7171	Algeria	Lloyds	Capital goods and associated services	10	10	31 December 1974
LC 264	7171	Algeria	Lloyds	Industrial plant, machinery, and associated services	1	10	20 June 1975
LC 389	7335	Angola	Barings	Capital plant and equipment and associated services	1	10	30 September 1975
LC 96	7369	Brazil	Barings	Electrical plant and equipment for the Marimbondo hydro-electric project	4.8	$200,000 (Sterling equivalent)	31 August 1975
LC 319	7369	Brazil	Schroder Wagg	Capital goods and associated services	5	10	30 September 1975
LC 394	7302	Bulgaria	National Westminster	Capital goods and associated services	3	5	31 March 1975
LC 344	7369	Costa Rica	National Westminster	Capital goods, plant, machinery and associated services	0.45	10	30 April 1975
LC 434	7302	Cuba	National Westminster	Capital goods and associated services	7	10	31 July 1975
LC 225	698	Cyprus	Midland	Capital and semi-capital goods	0.3	10	30 November 1974
LC 417	7302	Czechoslovakia	National Westminster	Capital plant and equipment and associated services	2	5	9 July 1976
LC 224	615	Denmark	Midland	Capital goods and associated services	1	10	Expired but extension under consideration
LC 292	615	Denmark	Barclays Bank International	Capital goods and associated services	1	10	21 February 1975
LC 293	615	Denmark	Barclays Bank International	Capital and semi capital goods (percentage of EEC origin may be included)	0.5	10	23 March 1975
LC 412	615	Denmark	Scandinavian Bank Ltd.	Capital goods	0.5	10	12 September 1975
LC 295	7340	Finland	Scandinavian Bank Ltd.	Capital plant and equipment and associated services (Oy Warsila AB)	0.8	10	21 March 1975
LC 493	7340	Finland	Hambros	Engineering machinery (Rauma-Repola Oy)	0.5	5	13 June 1976
LC 290	615	France	Midland	Industrial plant and equipment and similar capital goods	5	10	Expired but extension under consideration
LC 289	615	France	Midland	Industrial plant and equipment and similar capital goods	2	10	13 October 1975
LC 317	615	France	Lloyds	Industrial plant and machinery	5	10	31 August 1975
LC 361	615	France	National Westminster	Industrial plant and equipment	1	10	31 October 1974
LC 396	7302	German Democratic Republic	National Westminster	Capital plant equipment and associated services	2	10	9 April 1976
LC 324	615	German Federal Republic	Lloyds	Industrial plant and machinery	5	10	31 August 1975
LC 376	615	German Federal Republic	National Westminster	Plant and equipment and associated services	2	10	31 October 1974
LC 436	7302	Hungary	Morgan Grenfell	Capital plant and equipment and associated services	3	5	31 July 1976
LC 227	615	Irish Republic	National Westminster	Capital and semi-capital goods (including commercial vehicles)	2	10	31 December 1974
LC 441	615	Israel	Rothschilds	Capital goods and associated services	3	10	31 August 1975
LC 351	7171	Liberia	Morgan Grenfell	Capital goods and associated services	3	50	30 June 1975
LC 60	7177	Mexico	Lloyds	Capital goods and small projects	5	15	15 December 1974
LC 353	698	Mozambique	Baring Brothers	Industrial plant and machinery and sundry capital goods	2	10	31 March 1975
LC 332	7153	Peru	Schroder Wagg	Capital equipment and small projects	1.5	10	7 May 1975
LC 375	7153	Peru	Lazards	Capital plant and equipment	1	40	30 June 1975
LC 236	594	Philippines	Rothschilds	Textile machinery	3	200	Expired, but extension under consideration
LC 391	7302	Poland	Barclays Bank International	Capital goods and associated services	10	500	31 March 1975
LC 400	7302	Poland	Lloyds	Capital goods and associated services	15	100	31 March 1975
LC 310	698	Portugal	Rothschilds	Industrial plant and machinery	5	25	2 July 1975
LC 420	7302	Romania	National Westminster	Capital goods and associated services	3	5	31 May 1976
LC 119	7152	South Africa	Schroder Wagg	Capital and semi-capital goods and associated services	25	10	31 October 1974
LC 252	7152	South Africa	Hill Samuel	Telecommunication equipment for the South African Post Office	20	—	31 March 1975
LC 113	7152	South Africa	Schroder Wagg	Capital equipment and associated services for the South African Iron and Steel Industrial Corporation Ltd. (ISCOR)	38	100	31 December 1974
LC 314	7152	South Africa	Hill Samuel	UK goods and associated UK services primarily for use on various railway projects	18	80	22 April 1976
LC 397	7152	South Africa	Hill Samuel	Capital goods and related services for the electric supply undertakings operated by EBCOM	5	100	30 September 1975
LC 382	7340	Spain	Hill Samuel	Capital goods and associated services	5	10	31 December 1975
LC 371	698	Sweden	Scandinavian Bank	Ships equipment and other capital goods (Stal-Laval Turbin AB)	2	10	21 November 1974
LC 364	698	Sweden	Hambros	Ships equipment and sundry capital goods (Uddevallavarvet A/B)	1.692	100	25 September 1974
LC 365	698	Sweden	Hambros	Plant and equipment and associated services (Eriksberg Mekaniska Verkstads A/B)	2.4	10	10 October 1975
LC 450	393	Sweden	Midland	Ships equipment and other capital goods (Kockums)	1.3	5	18 September 1975
LC 122	7302	Yugoslavia	Barclays	Capital goods and associated services	10	10	31 December 1974
LC 208	7152	Zambia	Tozer Standard & Chartered Ltd.	Capital goods and services for development of opencast and underground mining (Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines Ltd.)	4.8	40	30 December 1974
LC 285	7152	Zambia	Morgan Grenfell	Capital goods for development of the mining industry (Roan Consolidated Mines Ltd.)	2.4	5	8 November 1974

Notices to Importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1 3DB. Tel. 01-215 7877

No. 1467: Community surveillance of imports – urea

Notice to Importers 1397, was issued on 4 April 1973, about Community surveillance of certain imports.

In this context, traders should note that from 2 December 1974, urea (tariff heading ex 31.02) may be imported into the UK from Yugoslavia under the authority of the Open General Import Licence, ie without the need for an individual import licence. Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-215 5834.

No. 1468: Increased quotas for imports from Poland

Further to the quotas for the import into the United Kingdom during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1974 of goods from Poland, published in *Trade and Industry*, 28 March 1974, and Notice to Importers 1452 of 7 June 1974, increases have been made in the following quotas. Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-215 5532.

Quota no.	Tariff heading	Description	Revised value £'000 cif or quantity
15		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of man-made fibres, the following:	
(i)	51.04 56.07	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres	375
(ii)	ex 60.01	Knitted or crocheted fabrics of man-made fibres	
	ex 60.05 ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of man-made fibres	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets (*other than electric blankets*) of woven man-made fibres	250 (a)
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven man-made fibres, *excluding those made up from narrow fabrics*	
16		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of wool or fine animal hair, the following:	
	53.11	Woven fabrics of wool or fine animal hair	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets (*other than electric blankets*) of woven wool or fine animal hair	110 (b)
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven wool or fine animal hair, *excluding those made up from narrow fabrics*	
17		Woven fabrics and made-up textile articles of flax, the following:	
(i)	ex 54.05 ex 62.02	Tea towelling and tea towels of flax	86,000 sq. m.
(ii)	ex 54.05	Other woven fabrics of flax	
	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen (other than tea towels), curtains and other furnishing articles of woven flax	52
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven flax, *excluding those made up from narrow fabrics*	
18		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of cotton, the following:	
(i)	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of woven cotton	117.56
(ii)	ex 60.05	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of knitted cotton	10
(iii)	55.07 55.08 55.09	Woven fabrics of cotton	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets (*other than electric blankets*) of woven cotton	100
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven cotton, *excluding those made up from narrow fabrics*	
19	ex 58.04	Plush fabrics of cotton, man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair (of which not more than £42,420 for fabrics made wholly or mainly of cotton)	320
23		Apparel (of which not more than £74,235 for items wholly or mainly of woven cotton), the following:	
	ex 60.04	Under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool	
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool or fine animal hair	
	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Outer garments of woven man-made fibres, cotton, or flax	
	ex 61.03 ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton or flax	2,330 (a) (c)
	ex 61.06	Shawls and other articles falling within 61.06 of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.09	Corsets and other articles falling within 61.09 of woven cotton	
24	ex 62.04	Woven cotton tents	9.6
28	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio and television broadcast receivers and radiograms (of which not more than £285,000 for radio receivers, television receivers with screens of under 18 in. in size and radiograms (d)	335
29	ex 85.21	Electronic valves, tubes and semi-conductors (of which not more than £185,000 for electronic tubes, or more than £335,000 for electronic valves and semi-conductors)	520

(a) These quotas include special import facilities, of the following amounts, which are valid for 1974 only and might not necessarily be available for the 1975 quota year:
Quota No. 15 (ii): £25,000.
Quota No. 23: £155,000.

(b) Of which not more than £95,000 for fabrics of wool or fine animal hair (53.11), or alternatively not more than £85,000 for made-up textile articles of wool or fine animal hair (ex 62.01, ex 62.05).

(c) This amount includes £400,000 which is available each year from 1974-78 after which the position will be reviewed, and of the total quota:
(i) not more than £2,130,000 may be used for knitted or crocheted garments
(ii) not more than £2,130,000 may be used for woven garments

(d) The reference to screen size is to the diagonal measurement.

GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

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Tariff and Trade Notices

Portugal

Tobacco tax: revised rates. Portuguese *Diario do Governo* No. 210 published Decree-Law 424/74 establishing with effect from 9 September 1974, consolidated rates of tax on the consumption of tobacco. No additional tax will be levied by the state or by administrative bodies. Details of the new rates are available on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Sulphuric acid: drawback of import duty. Portuguese *Diario do Governo* No. 239 published Order 662/74, 14 October 1974, authorising the import under drawback of 2,700 tonnes of sulphuric acid intended for the manufacture of ammonium sulphate for export. For each 1,000 kg of ammonium sulphate exported, the duty on the import of 765 kg of sulphuric acid will be refunded. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Italy

Harmonisation of EEC legislation: motor vehicles and trailers. A supplement to the Italian *Gazzette Ufficiale*, 26 September 1974, published a series of ministerial decrees relating to the partial adoption of the European Community Member States' harmonisation legislation on equipment and characteristics of motor vehicles and trailers.

Annexes to the decrees set out the technical requirements and testing methods. A summary of the decrees and the relative Council Directives are given below:

Permissible sound level and exhaust system (70/157/EEC 73/350/EEC)

Fuel tanks and rear protective devices (70/221/EEC)

Steering equipment for vehicles and trailers (70/311/EEC)

Interior fittings (74/60/EEC)

Anti-theft devices (74/61/EEC)

Doors, construction and fitting requirements (70/387/EEC)

Braking devices (71/320/EEC)

Radio-interference produced by spark-ignition engines (72/245/EEC)

Emission of pollutants from diesel engines (72/306/EEC)

Copies of the decrees, in Italian, are obtainable from OTAR Section: Inquiries: OTAR ext. 466/467/288.

Israel

Import policy. Preliminary information has been received about a series of measures to reduce imports including a ban on the import of 29 luxury items such as cars, refrigerators, certain textiles, beer, carpets, dishwashers, domestic ventilators, cement, toys, furniture, ceramic wall tiles, cigarettes and cigars, dried fruits, mineral water, chewing gum, and perambulators. No further information is available at present but details are expected soon.

The Israeli Government has announced the following tax changes with immediate effect:

Temporary import duty surcharge (defence levy). The defence levy has been reduced from 35 per cent to 15 per cent.

Purchase tax. The rates have been increased by an additional 15 per cent on a number of items including carpets, radios, television sets, passenger and commercial vehicles, air-conditioning units, ventilators, ceramic tiles, and refrigerators.

These changes are subject to official confirmation. No further information is available at present and another notice will be issued when details are received. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

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Bracken House
10 Cannon Street
London EC4P 4BY

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Iran

Customs duty and tax on cars. The Iranian customs administration has announced that duty and commercial benefit tax on 1975 model cars will be calculated on the same basis as for 1974 models, as described in *Trade and Industry*, 25 October 1973. This is because foreign manufacturers have not yet submitted 1975 price lists. Buyers will have to undertake to pay any extra duty or tax after cars have cleared customs. Meanwhile, customs will allow 20 per cent on duties and commercial benefit for 1974 model cars arriving in Iran after 31 December 1974. Also after that date 1973 and 1972 models will be entitled to 30 per cent and 40 per cent reductions, respectively. Earlier models will also be entitled to proportionate reductions. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Iraq

Establishing of free zones. A translation has been received of Iraqi Law 173 of 1969 concerning the establishing of free zones, which appeared in the English version of the Iraq Government *Official Gazette* No. 28, 18 July 1974. Copies of the law are available to British exporters and may be obtained from OTAR Section, Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Kenya

Ban on imports of some paper. Information has been received that the Government of Kenya has imposed a ban on imports of paper other than newsprint, tissue, and coated paper, with effect from the week ending 8 November 1974. Applications for new import licences are being rejected unless a dispensation has been given by Pan African Paper Mills. Current licences being honoured but the maximum time is six months. Further information will be published when it is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Sierra Leone

Soap and soap flakes: import licensing. A notice published in *Trade and Industry*, of 10 October 1974, page 74, announced publication of Government Notice No. 929 – General Import Licence (No.1 of 1975). This notice has been amended by the following Government Notice published in the *Sierra Leone Gazette*, 31 October 1974, and taking effect from 29 October 1974:

Government Notice No. 1086

NOTICE TO IMPORTERS

Government Notice No. 929 published in *Sierra Leone Gazette* dated 12 September 1974, is hereby amended by the addition of the following item to the list of items referred to in the said notice.

554-120 Common (washing) soap, solid, solid or soft and soap flakes and powders.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/472/471/462

Ivory Coast

Glues. A recent decree (Arrêté No. 1164 MC/MEF) announced that the importation of glues under tariff headings 35-05, 35-05-01, 35-05-10, 35-05-20, 35-06, 35-06-01, 35-06-20 is restricted for a period of 12 months and can only be authorised by the prior approval of the Direction du Commerce Exterieur. This is effective from 26 September 1974. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Pesticides. According to a decree published by the Ivory Coast authorities, pesticides will have to registered, prior to their sale, free distribution, or use. Copies of the decree are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Niger

Tomato purée and matches. A recent decree by the Niger authorities reserved a monopoly over the importation of tomato purée and matches for the Société de Commerce et de production du Niger (Copro-Niger). Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Mali

Motor pumps exempt from duty. According to Instruction No. 22 of 11 July 1974, issued by the Mali authorities, motor pumps and spare parts for motor pumps (tariff heading ex 84.10) are now exempt from all customs and importation duties except for a statistical tax of 2 per cent. This measure is aimed at relieving goods destined for agricultural work. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Cameroon

Colza-based oils. The Cameroon Government has forbidden the importation of oils with a base of colza on the grounds that its domestic use is a hazard to health. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

South Africa

Grain driers: tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 646, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 15 November 1974, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on grain and similar driers classifiable under tariff sub-heading 84.17.90.

British trade organisations thought to be interested are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association. Any firm proposing to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requiring further information should address inquiries to Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Department of Trade. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Tariff changes. The following amendment was published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 1 November 1974:

R1989 BN 69.07 and 69.08: The reference to 'mosaic cubes' is replaced by a reference to 'mosaics'.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Labelling of farm feeds. South African *Government Gazette* 4478, 1 November 1974 (Notice R1996), carries details of revised regulations, under the Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 1947. The regulations relate to the labelling of farm feeds and the registration of sterilising plants. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Canada

Acrylonitrile: 'Made in Canada' ruling: The Canadian authorities have announced the transfer of acrylonitrile (propenenitrile, vinyl cyanide) from the category of a kind made in Canada to that of a kind not made in Canada. Effective date 31 October 1974. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Medical devices. The Health Protection Branch of the Canadian Department of Health and Welfare has issued Information Letter 429 which puts forward proposals for regulations to set up standards for the manufacture of intra-uterine devices. Details are available. Comments should be made by the end of November. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/7312.

United States

Federal Register notices. Notices of interest to British exporters have been published in the United States *Federal Register* on the dates shown in parentheses:

Cottage cheese. Amendments to labelling of optional ingredients of cottage cheese and cottage cheese dry curd. Order effective from 30 November 1974 (30 October 1974).
Noise emission. EPA proposal to establish noise emission standards for medium and heavy duty trucks. Written Comments before 16 December 1974 (30 October 1974).
Microwave ovens. Notice of a public meeting on 10 December 1974 to discuss amendments to the performance standard. Notification of interested parties by 15 November 1974 (30 October 1974).
In Vitro diagnostic products. The closing date for comments on the proposed standard for detection or measurement of Glucose which has been extended to 12 December 1974 (31 October 1974).
Live measles. Smallpox vaccine. Details of proposed changes of licensing requirements affecting additional standards of safety, purity and potency. comments by 2 December 1974 (31 October 1974).
Motor vehicle safety standards. Details of a proposed amendment of standard No. 208, Occupant Crash Protection to establish a new warning system for seat belt assemblies. The new system optional until 25 February 1975. Written comments (10 copies) before 25 November 1974 (31 October 1974).
National Bureau of standards. A general description of the work of the National Standard Reference Data System and list of Data Centres. (31 October 1974).
Chain door locks. A notice giving details of an investigation by the Tariff Commission alleging unfair competition and infringement of US Patent. Comments by 29 November 1974 and public hearing 5 December 1974 (5 November 1974).
Dressing for food. Details of labelling of optional ingredients and standard of identity for french dressing (8 November 1974).
Micropaque. Information affecting tariff classification (1 November 1974).

A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Tel: 01-248-5757 ext. 456, 457, and 7312.

Mexico

Price control of basic articles. A new decree regulating the prices of certain basic articles was promulgated in Mexico's *Official Gazette*, 13 October 1974. The articles involved include basic foodstuffs and clothing, essential raw materials for industrial activities, primary petrochemical products, basic chemical-pharmaceutical products, school supplies, products of the paper industry, matches, cigarettes, ice, and cars. British exporters may see a copy of the decree in OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Argentina

Technology and licence agreements. A new law (Law 20974) governing the transfer into Argentina of technology and licence agreements came into effect in Argentina on 6 November 1974. All agreements made before 6 November 1974 must be re-submitted for amendment to the Argentine Registry of Licence Agreements before 31 December 1974. A free translation of the law is available. Inquiries: CRE tel 01-215 5287.

Guatemala

Cigarettes. Decree 80-74 imposing a tax of 30 per cent of the selling price on cigarettes and requires packets to be marked, from 1 January 1975, with a warning that they may damage the health. An unofficial translation of extracts from the decree is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Alcoholic beverages. Consumption taxes levied on alcoholic beverages have been amended by Decree 80-74. An unofficial translation of extracts from the decree is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Vehicle taxation. The taxes levied on passenger cars have been amended by decree 80-74. An unofficial translation of extracts from the decree is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Venezuela

Registration of foreign investments. The Venezuelan Superintendency of Foreign Investments has extended the closing date for the registration of foreign investments in accordance with Decision 24 of the Andean Pact. The date has now been changed from 29 October (see *Trade and Industry*, 17 October 1974) to 30 December. Inquiries: CRE 2 tel. 01-215 5288.

Australia

Moves to improve private sector liquidity. In a move to boost private sector liquidity and provide businesses with an additional degree of flexibility in the management of their finances. the Australian Treasurer has announced the lifting of the ban on short-term overseas borrowings (except for loans of six months or less), the suspension of the variable deposit requirement (recently 5 per cent) on long-term overseas borrowings, and a further reduction in the treasury note yields from 9.358 per cent to 8.687 per cent. Ref. CRE 36473. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Footwear regulations correction. A notice published in *Trade and Industry*, 15 August 1974, stated that regulations operative from 1 December 1974 would require a description of the materials comprising the uppers and linings of footwear imported into Australia in addition to the composition of the soles. We have since been informed that these regulations came into effect on 1 November. Ref. CRE 23541. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

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New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations and Decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

General Corrigendum. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L300, 8 November 1974, contains a correction to Regulation (EEC) 2518/74 (published in *Official Journal* L270, 5 October 1974) on the measures to be taken following the all-round increase with effect from 7 October 1974 of agricultural prices.
Page 17, Annex, part V A, subheading 15.01 A:

for:	A. Lard and other rendered pig fat:			
	I. For industrial uses other than the manufacture of foodstuffs for human consumption (a)	30.24	2.21	3
	II. Other	—	2.21	—
read:	A. Lard and other rendered pig fat:			
	I. For industrial uses other than the manufacture of foodstuffs for human consumption (a)	—	2.21	3
	II. Other	30.24	2.21	—

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 2778/74 on the granting at a standard rate fixed in advance of private storage aid for beef. (*Official Journal* L294, 1 November 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 2790/74 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of premiums for the retention of cattle. (*Official Journal* L297, 5 November 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 2801/74 extending the scope of Regulation (EEC) 2320/74 as regards certain beef held by the Danish and the Netherlands intervention agencies. (*Official Journal* L299, 7 November 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 2803/74 amending Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) 1967/74 with a view to authorising certain Member States to grant an interest subsidy on loans advanced for the retention of young cattle on the farm. (*Official Journal* L300, 8 November 1974).

Soya beans. Regulation (EEC) 2783/74 on special measures for soya beans for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L297, 5 November 1974).

Cereals. Decision 74/531/EEC authorising the Netherlands to adopt more stringent provisions concerning the presence of 'Avena fatua' in cereal seed. (*Official Journal* L299, 7 November 1974).

Seeds. Decision 74/532/EEC exempting Ireland from applying to certain species Directives 66/401/EEC and 66/402/EEC on the marketing of fodder plant seed and of cereal seed and Directive 69/208/EEC on the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants. (*Official Journal* L299, 7 November 1974).

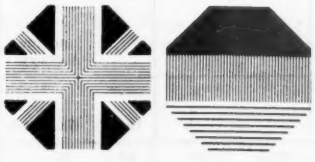
RULES OF COMPETITION: *The Official Journal of the European Communities* C 136, 6 November 1974, contains a notice concerning the notification to the Commission of a contract made between Intergroup Trading BV (Intergroup), Amsterdam and Internationale Spar Centrale BV (ISC), Amsterdam. Intergroup's shareholders are ISC and ten national Spar organisations each operating in its own country as a voluntary wholesale or retail chain, specialising in the distribution of foodstuffs. The contract includes provisions relating to the supply of foodstuffs to the national organisations for sale under the Spar trade name. The notification was made in accordance with Regulation 17/1962 which implements Article 85 of the Treaty of Rome.

The Commission intends to take a favourable decision on the agreement but before doing so it invites any interested third parties to send their comments within one month from 6 November 1974, quoting reference number IV/28.838, to the

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate for Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions,
Rue de la Loi, 200,
B-1040 Brussels, Belgium.

Inquiries: Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Fair Trading Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, (tel. 01-215 5092.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.



GERMAN CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY & COMMERCE IN THE U.K.

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Commercial Enquiries 01-235 0651-5
Tx. 919442 GERMANTRADE

From 1st October 1974 the Chamber will in addition to other duties already performed take charge of all commercial enquiries pertaining to British-German trade. This concludes the last phase of a three-year programme by which the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany has transferred the commercial information service to the Chamber. The Embassy will continue to deal with overall economic policy matters, trade fairs and exhibitions in general and to meet requests for information of a general or official nature. Also after the redistribution of responsibilities both the Embassy and the Chamber will cope with economic and trade matters in a flexible way and will continue their close co-operation for the benefit of the public.

Commercial enquiries may be directed to the Chamber in writing, by telex or by telephone, between 10.00–12.00 and 14.00–16.00 hours Monday to Friday, when the office is also open to visitors.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,404	9,223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1969	99	98	98	95	92	416		42	33	445	−143	588
1970	100	100	100	100	100	257	324	68	−23	692	−9	701
1971	101	103	100	94	102	−7	−126	52	−4	1,093	285	808
1972	104	109	103	85	115	−39	−205	48	3	114	−677	791
1973	109	114	108	90	121	674	374	32	242	−1,210	−2,375	1,165
1971 4th qtr.	102	105	101	90	103	—	−37	3	17	248	60	188
1972 1st qtr.	101	106	103	90	107	−36	−62	17	−16	71	−121	192
2nd qtr.	104	108	103	84	115	−27	−108	1	38	112	−64	176
3rd qtr.	104	110	102	82	115	−13	−42	6	−13	−116	−284	163
4th qtr.	106	111	105	83	123	−37	7	24	−6	+2	−208	210
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	111	89	126	257	146	11	32	−184	−351	167
2nd qtr.	109	112	104	86	112	202	61	−9	163	−195	−399	204
3rd qtr.	110	114	109	91	120	94	68	6	22	−274	−608	332
4th qtr.	110	114	109	94	124	121	99	24	25	−557	−1,019	462
1974 1st qtr.	106	114	111	98	111	−258	−100	8	−73	−985	−1,286	301
2nd qtr.	110	112	102	99	106	216	105	38	17	−1,051	−1,361	310
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−1.6	−0.9	−2.9	+6.6	−11.1							
on a year earlier	−1.4	−0.6	−1.2	+12.9	−8.8							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour				Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices		Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults		Exports	Imports
				monthly averages	Index‡	% increase on a year earlier				mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count		monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan 16, 1962		1970	1970	July 31, 1972					Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands		£ million	
1970	100.0	100.0	99.0	91.4	140.2	6.4	100.0	100.0	78.5	568	2.5	186		658	659
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129		733	709
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145		761	818
1973	109.8	110.3	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.4	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304		953	1,151
1972 4th qtr.	105.9	105.7	109.2	144	169.4	7.7	115.6	118.0	107.8	750	3.3	179		871	940
1973 1st qtr.	109.8	109.7	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.8	667	2.9	228		878	995
2nd qtr.	109.4	109.8	108.3	136	177.9	9.3	133.3	120.1•	112.6	605	2.6	289		931	1,064
3rd qtr.	110.7	111.4	110.6	143	180.2	9.2	150.8	124.2	118.4	562	2.5	334		995	1,197
4th qtr.	109.5	110.4	112.0	119	186.8	10.3	167.6	129.1	120.9	489	2.2	364		1,008	1,348
1974 1st qtr.	103.7	105.8	109.9	103	101.4†	12.9	214.3	138.4	125.0	543	2.4	285		1,124	1,553
2nd qtr.	108.5	109.7	107.5	104	107.5	15.8	215.8	148.9	131.7	552	2.4	309		1,283	1,737
3rd qtr.	109.7	110.9	111.0	108	110.2	17.0	216.1	155.8	142.7	600	2.7	306		1,370	1,759
1973 Aug.	110.5	111.3	110.7	153	180.2	8.9	152.5	124.1	119.7	563	2.5	330		980	1,206
Sept.	110.8	111.6	110.6	129	181.8	9.3	154.7	125.8	120.0	542	2.4	349		1,043	1,239
Oct.	111.4	112.0	111.2	127	185.4	9.9	161.7	127.7	120.3	512	2.3	363		982	1,385
Nov.	110.4	111.7	112.1	126	186.8	10.3	166.0	129.0	121.0	486	2.2	368		1,022	1,304
Dec.	106.6	107.5	112.6	103	188.2	10.6	175.1	130.6	122.0	470	2.1	362		1,019	1,354
1974 Jan.	101.5	102.5	109.2	93	191.8	12.0	210.7	134.1	123.7	535	2.4	304		1,012	1,391
Feb.	103.3	106.8	110.2	109	101.7†	13.2	215.1	138.5	124.7	549	2.4	278		1,153	1,599
Mar.	106.3	108.1	110.1	106	102.6	13.5	217.0	142.2	126.5	545	2.4	274		1,208	1,675
Apr.	108.1	109.5	108.1	96	106.1	15.2	217.4	146.3	127.6	546	2.4	297		1,255	1,662
May	108.1	108.9	105.8	105	107.6	15.9	216.0	148.9	131.5	548	2.4	314		1,270	1,747
June	109.3	110.8	108.3	111	108.7	16.5	213.9	151.1	136.1	561	2.5	317		1,325	1,802
July	110.0	111.1	109.3	105	109.7	17.1	214.6	153.5	138.7	582	2.6	317		1,322	1,797
Aug.	110.1	111.8	111.5	102	109.8	16.9	216.7	156.1	144.3	606	2.7	298		1,372	1,692
Sept.	109.1	109.8	112.1	118	111.0	17.1	216.0 p	158.5 p	145.0	612	2.7	303		1,415	1,788
Oct.			111.5 p		113.2	17.1	223.0 p	161.2 p		607 p	2.7 p	297 p		1,325 p	1,765 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+1.1	+1.1	+3.8	+4.1	+2.5		+1.7	+4.9	+8.3	+7.9		−5.3		+5.0	−1.9
on a year earlier	−0.9	−0.5	+0.8	−24.2	+17.0		+39.8	+26.0	+20.3	+12.9		−13.8		+36.8	+37.0

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan 1974 = 100.

Index of retail prices for October

The index of retail prices for all items for 15 October 1974 was 113.2 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 2.0 per cent on September (111.0) and of 17.1 per cent on October 1973.

The rise in the index in October was due to higher prices and charges for food, clothing, beer, newspapers, car insurance and many other goods and services.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	e fifty-three week
p provisional	period

TABLE 1 Rates of change

	All items				All items except seasonal food			
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Index 16 January 1962 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Index 16 January 1962 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 6 months
1974 May	107.6	206.4	+1.4	+16.0	107.7	204.0	+1.3	+10.3
June	108.7	208.5	+1.0	+16.5	108.6	205.7	+0.8	+10.5
July	109.7	210.4	+0.9	+17.1	110.0	208.3	+1.3	+10.0
August	109.8	210.6	+0.1	+16.9	110.3	208.9	+0.3	+8.2
September	111.0	212.9	+1.1	+17.1	111.5	211.2	+1.1	+8.5
October	113.2	217.1	+2.0	+17.1	113.7	215.3	+2.0	+7.0

TABLE 2 General index of retail prices

	Indices (15 January 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	17 Sept. 1974	15 October 1974	
All items	111.0	113.2	+2.0
All items excluding food	112.1	114.2	+1.9
Food	107.5	110.4	+2.7
Seasonal food	99.8	104.6	+4.8
Other food	109.3	111.8	+2.3
Alcoholic drink	111.6	115.4	+3.4
Tobacco	121.6	121.6	Nil
Housing	105.8	107.1	+1.2
Fuel and light	116.8	116.0	+0.2
Durable household goods	110.5	113.7	+2.9
Clothing and footwear	112.9	115.1	+1.9
Transport and vehicles	113.5	115.0	+1.3
Miscellaneous goods	115.4	120.1	+4.1
Services	110.3	111.7	+1.3
Meals out	111.7	113.8	+1.9

Northern Ireland index of production

The provisional index of production for September 1974 is 164. This is one point higher than the index for August 1974 and three points higher than September 1973.

The index numbers for the main industrial groups with the increase or decrease on September 1973 with corresponding percentages, shown in brackets are: Textiles 248 (−18 points; −7 per cent); Clothing 140 (+5; + 4 per cent); Engineering and metals 112 (+6; +6 per cent); Food, drink and tobacco 128 (+2; + 2 per cent); Timber and furniture 159 (−23; −13 per cent); Mineral products 171 (−20; −10 per cent); Other manufacturing industries 256 (+29; +13 per cent); and Gas, electricity and water 194 (+7; + 4 per cent).

New companies incorporated in Northern Ireland during October

During the month of October, 43 private companies and one public company with a total nominal capital of £1,358,300 were incorporated in Northern Ireland.

During the period January-October, 473 companies with a total nominal capital of £7,776,650 were incorporated as compared with 608 companies with a total nominal capital of £4,817,761 in the same period 1973.

Regional selective assistance

The tables below show on a regional basis the applications received and offers made under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 for the month indicated.

September 1974

Assisted area	Application received	Offers made	
	No.	No.	Value (£000)
Scotland	17	17	1,120
Wales	14	10	271
Northern	31	18	1,575
North West	6	13	1,298
Yorks and Humberside	15	19	1,037
East Midlands	6	4	111
West Midlands	—	—	—
South West	3	2	19
	92	83	5,431

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Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for October

In October 1974 the current account is estimated to have been in deficit by £335 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £440 million, seasonally adjusted, of which £330 million was accounted for by the deficit on trade in oil (that is, petroleum and petroleum products – for details see Table 9). The balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £105 million.

In the three months August to October 1974 the current deficit averaged £272 million a month compared with £372 million a month in the previous three months.

£ million per month seasonally adjusted

		Current balance	Visible balance: Trade in goods: Petroleum and petroleum products	Visible balance: Trade in goods: Other goods	Visible balance: Trade in goods: Total	Invisible balance: Services and other current transactions
1973	1st qtr.	– 61	– 62	– 55	–117	+ 56
	2nd qtr.	– 65	– 75	– 58	–133	+ 68
	3rd qtr.	– 91	– 78	–124	–202	+111
	4th qtr.	–186	–100	–240	–340	+154
1974	1st qtr.	–329	–240	–189	–429	+100
	2nd qtr.	–350	–306	–147	–453	+103
	3rd qtr.	–284	–303	– 86	–389	+105•
	May	–374	–295	–182	–477	+103†
	June	–373	–322	–155	–477	+104†
	July	–370	–345	–130	–475	+105•
	August	–215	–264	– 56	–320	+105•
	Sept.	–268	–301	– 72	–373	+105•
	October	–335	–330	–110	–440	+105•
	May-Jul.	–372	–321	–155	–476	+104†
	Aug.-Oct.	–272	–298	– 79	–377	+105•

• These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

† One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate. Monthly figures of invisibles are not available.

TABLE 1 (a) Visible trade on balance of payments basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million per month

		Exports (fob)	Imports (fob)	Visible balance
1972		761	818	– 57
1973		953	1,151	–198
1972	1st quarter	726	766	– 40
	2nd quarter	764	786	– 22
	3rd quarter	684	779	– 95
	4th quarter	871	940	– 69
1973	1st quarter	878	995	–117
	2nd quarter	931	1,064	–133
	3rd quarter	995	1,197	–202
	4th quarter	1,008	1,348	–340
1974	1st quarter	1,124	1,553	–429
	2nd quarter	1,283	1,737	–453
	3rd quarter r	1,370	1,759	–389
	May	1,270	1,747	–477
	June	1,325	1,802	–477
	July r	1,322	1,797	–475
	August r	1,372	1,692	–320
	September r	1,415	1,788	–373
	October p	1,325	1,765	–440
	May-Jul.	1,306	1,782	–476
	Aug.-Oct. p	1,371	1,748	–377

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates

Visible trade

(a) Summary. In October there was a deficit on visible trade of £440 million, seasonally adjusted: the value of exports was £1,325 million and the value of imports was £1,765 million.

In the three months ended October the visible trade deficit

ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT ACCOUNT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

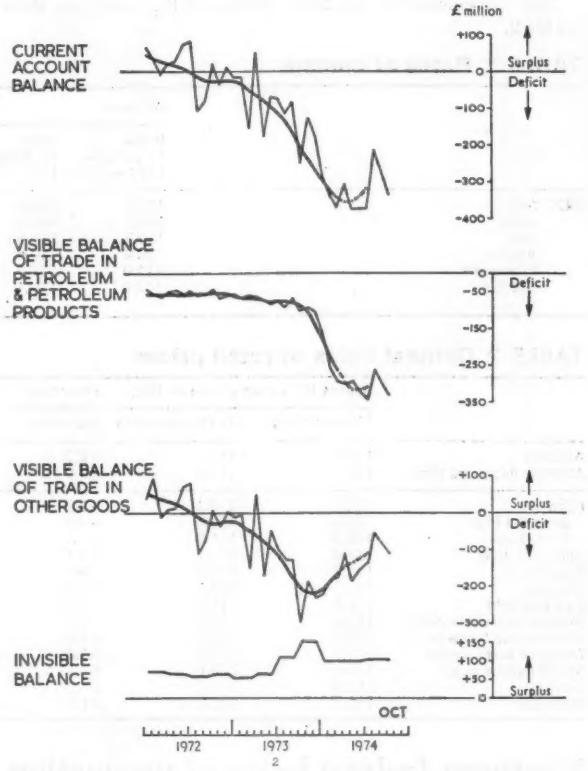

TABLE 1 (b) Invisible Trade†

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million per month

		Credits	Debits	Invisible balance
1972		507	441	+ 66
1973		664	567	+ 97
1972	1st quarter	494	423	+ 71
	2nd quarter	493	428	+ 65
	3rd quarter	509	448	+ 61
	4th quarter	532	465	+ 67
1973	1st quarter	583	527	+ 56
	2nd quarter	624	556	+ 68
	3rd quarter	685	574	+111
	4th quarter	765	611	+154
1974	1st quarter	791	691	+100
	2nd quarter	772	669	+103
	July			+105•
	August			+105•
	September			+105•
	October			+105•

† See note 1 (g).

• These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

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averaged £377 million a month compared with a monthly average of £476 million in the previous three months. Falls in both the oil trade and non-oil trade deficits contributed to this reduction in the overall visible trade deficit: the oil trade deficit fell from £321 million a month to £298 million a month and the non-oil deficit from £155 million a month to £79 million a month.

TABLE 2 Exports

Seasonally adjusted values § — £ million per month

		Overseas trade statistics basis (fob)	Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1972		812	− 51	761
1973		1,038	− 85	953
1972	1st quarter	773	− 48	726
	2nd quarter	813	− 49	764
	3rd quarter	733	− 49	684
	4th quarter	929	− 59	871
1973	1st quarter	945	− 68	878
	2nd quarter	1,005	− 73	931
	3rd quarter	1,084	− 89	995
	4th quarter	1,117	−110	1,008
1974	1st quarter	1,215	− 91	1,124
	2nd quarter	1,377	− 94	1,283
	3rd quarter r	1,487	−117	1,370
	May	1,374	−104	1,270
	June	1,411	− 85	1,325
	July r	1,442	−120	1,322
	August r	1,483	−111	1,372
	September r	1,534	−119	1,415
	October p	1,459	−135	1,325
	May-Jul.	1,409	−103	1,306
	Aug.-Oct. p	1,492	−122	1,371

§ Components and totals are rounded independently.
p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

TABLE 3 Imports

Seasonally adjusted values § — £ million per month

		Overseas trade statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to balance of payments basis: Freight insurance and other valuation adjustments	Adjustments to balance of payments basis: Coverage adjustments ‡	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1972		928	− 86	−24	818
1973		1,321	−114	−56	1,151
1972	1st quarter	877	− 81	−30	766
	2nd quarter	891	− 86	−19	786
	3rd quarter	888	− 82	−27	779
	4th quarter	1,057	− 94	−23	940
1973	1st quarter	1,130	−102	−33	995
	2nd quarter	1,226	−110	−52	1,064
	3rd quarter	1,388	−118	−73	1,197
	4th quarter	1,541	−128	−65	1,348
1974	1st quarter	1,767	−144	−70	1,553
	2nd quarter	1,980	−146	−96	1,737
	3rd quarter r	1,991	−147	−84	1,759
	May	1,988	−148	−92	1,747
	June	2,051	−145	−104	1,802
	July r	2,052	−150	−105	1,797
	August r	1,929	−145	− 92	1,692
	September r	1,990	−146	− 56	1,788
	October p	2,014	−140	−110	1,765
	May-Jul.	2,030	−148	−100	1,782
	Aug.-Oct. p	1,978	−144	− 86	1,748

§ Components and totals are rounded independently.
‡ Including adjustments for arrivals of and payments for United States military aircraft etc. up to the end of 1972. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

In the third quarter of this year (the latest period for which information is available) there was an improvement compared with the second quarter of 4½ per cent in the terms of trade (4 per cent if fuels are excluded) as export prices rose faster than import prices. Between the same quarters there was little change in the volume of either exports or imports.

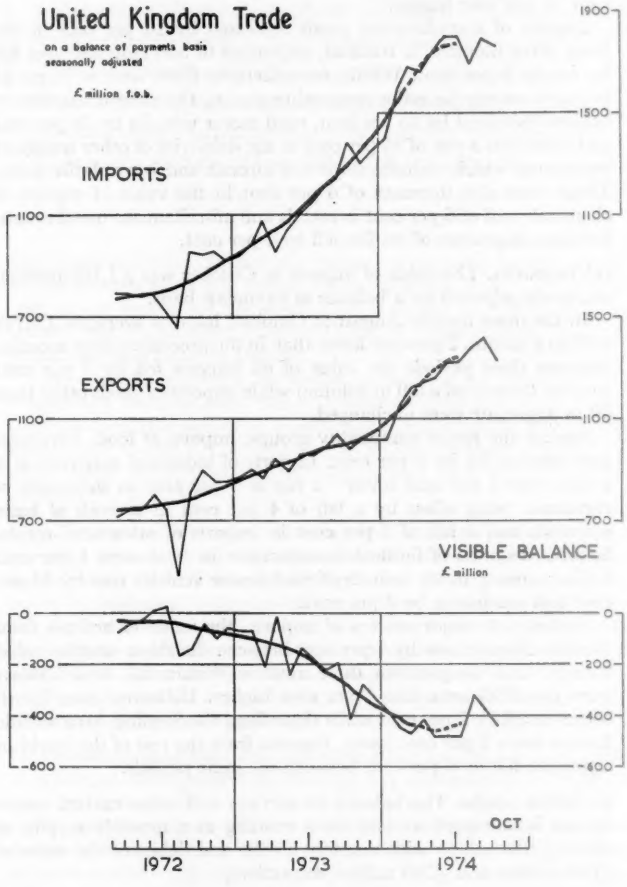

TABLE 4 Recorded values
Overseas trade statistics basis

£ million per month

		Exports fob	Imports cif ‡
1972	1st quarter	770.7	905.7
	2nd quarter	843.9	910.8
	3rd quarter	683.3	850.0
	4th quarter	950.7	1,052.1
1973	1st quarter	942.6	1,189.6
	2nd quarter	1,024.9	1,240.8
	3rd quarter	1,018.7	1,313.2
	4th quarter	1,165.5	1,541.1
1974	1st quarter	1,194.5	1,777.3
	2nd quarter	1,403.5	2,015.2
	3rd quarter r	1,410.7	1,933.8
	August	1,337.5	1,812.0
	September r	1,358.8	1,861.7
	October	1,610.3	2,146.8

‡ Including arrivals of US military aircraft up to the end of 1972.
p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

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(b) Exports. The value of exports in October was £1,325 million seasonally adjusted on a balance of payments basis.

In the three months August to October exports averaged £1,371 million, 5 per cent higher than in the previous three months. Between these periods exports to Western Europe increased by 4 per cent (with deliveries to the EEC 2 per cent higher) and those to the Sterling Area outside Europe by 8 per cent. Shipments to North America rose by 3 per cent, while those to the rest of the world in aggregate were 14 per cent higher.

Exports of manufactured goods increased by 10 per cent in the latest three months: in contrast, shipments of non-manufactures fell by nearly 4 per cent. Within manufactures there were widespread increases among the major commodity groups. The value of machinery exports increased by 15 per cent, road motor vehicles by 14 per cent and there was a rise of 35 per cent in the deliveries of other transport equipment which includes ships and aircraft and is a volatile series. There were also increases of 8 per cent in the value of exports of chemicals and of 6 per cent in metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures; shipments of textiles fell by 4 per cent.

(c) Imports. The value of imports in October was £1,765 million, seasonally adjusted on a balance of payments basis.

In the three months August to October, imports averaged £1,748 million a month, 2 per cent lower than in the preceding three months. Between these periods the value of oil imports fell by 7 per cent (mainly because of a fall in volume) while imports of goods other than oil in aggregate were unchanged.

Among the major commodity groups, imports of food, beverages and tobacco fell by 3 per cent. Imports of industrial materials as a whole were 1 per cent lower – a rise of 9 per cent in shipments of chemicals being offset by a fall of 4 per cent in arrivals of basic materials and a fall of 2 per cent in imports of other semi-manufactures. Imports of finished manufactures in total were 1 per cent higher: among these, arrivals of road motor vehicles rose by 32 per cent and machinery by 3 per cent.

Among our major sources of imports, the value of arrivals from Western Europe rose by 1 per cent between the three months ended October and the previous three months. Within this total imports from the EEC were also 1 per cent higher. Deliveries from North America fell by 2 per cent while those from the Sterling Area outside Europe were 5 per cent lower. Imports from the rest of the world in aggregate fell by 6 per cent between the same periods.

Invisible trade. The balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £105 million with monthly credits and debits of the order of £800 million and £700 million respectively.

Notes

1(a) Trade figures on a balance of payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a balance of payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in Tables 2 and 3 of this article Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs The other adjustments relate to coverage, either to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) or to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair). The adjustment of imports to a balance of payments basis excludes the values of deliveries of US military aircraft (including spares and some missiles) but includes the payments for those imports which are mainly being financed by a special US Exim Bank credit (the values involved are now small). All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual *Pink Book, United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1963-73* (Table 6 and pages 62-66) and in an atricle in the issue of *Trade and Industry* dated 4 November 1970.

Since firm figures for the adjustments do not become available as quickly as the recorded trade statistics, the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis in the latest months are at this stage preliminary estimates and liable to revision.

1(b). The adjustments described at Note 1(a) are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports (Tables 2 and 3) and the monthly figures of trade in petroleum and petroleum products (Table 9). They cannot be estimated for the area and other commodity analyses of trade. The values of total trace and the main components of exports and imports in Tables 5 to 8 are available only on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis and correspond with the totals given in the first columns of Tables 2 and 3. Whereas comment on total trade and trade in petroleum and petroleum products relates to figures for exports and imports on a balance of payments basis,

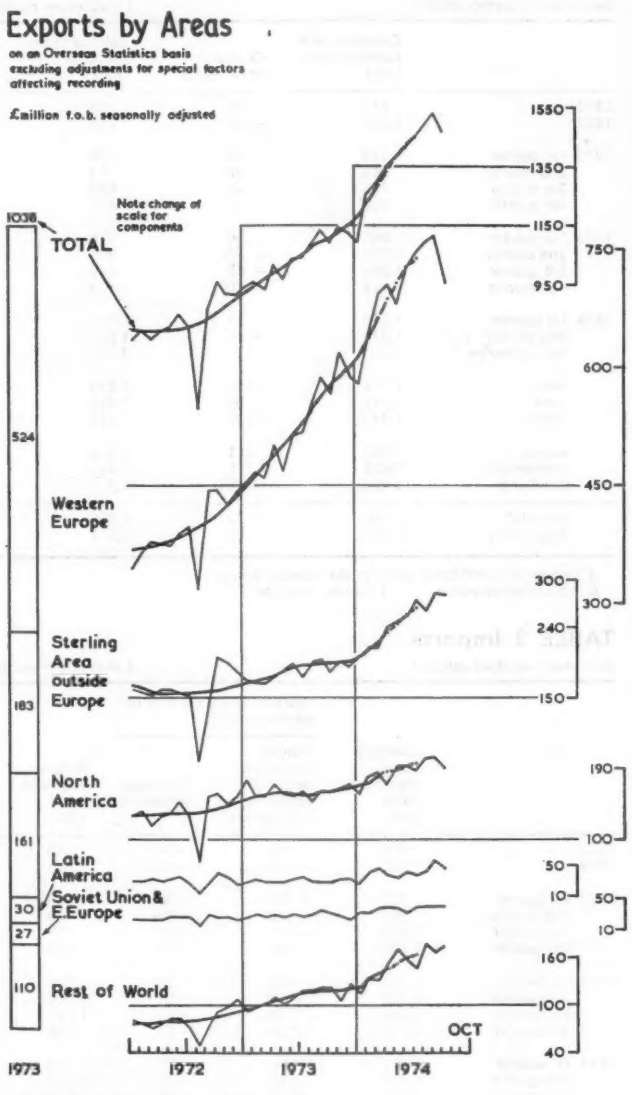

TABLE 5 Exports: Areas ¶
Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob per month

	Total	Sterling area outside Europe	Western Europe inc. Irish Republic			North America	Latin America	Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	Rest of world
			Total	EEC	EFTA				
1973	1,038	183	524	336	146	161	30	27	110
1973 4th qtr.	1,117	189	589	377	164	165	30	26	118
1974 1st qtr.	1,215	210	635	406	184	175	35	33	126
2nd qtr.	1,377	247	705	474	183	187	37	35	160
3rd qtr. r	1,487	274	758	495	197	199	47	39	166
Aug. r	1,483	260	759	493	205	204	42	40	178
Sept. r	1,534	287	769	504	197	205	62	40	169
Oct. p	1,459	285	706	480	190	190	49	40	174
May-Jul.	1,409	258	719	484	183	193	38	25	159
Aug.-Oct. p	1,492	278	744	492	198	200	51	40	174

¶ See Note 1(b).
r Revised estimates.
p Provisional estimates.

analysis of the area and other commodity patterns of trade in this article are based on the figures on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis in Tables 5 to 8. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

1(c) Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in Note 1(a) above. Since, as noted above, the import and export figures for the most recent months are provisional, it follows that the monthly visible balances for these months are also provisional and liable to revision.

The monthly figures for the visible balance are published only on a seasonally adjusted basis. Since the balance is the difference of two large and variable figures, it is itself liable to fluctuation and undue significance should not be attached to a single month's figure; it is more useful to consider the average balance over three or more months.

1(d) Trends. Even after allowing for seasonal influences, the sequence of monthly figures is usually too variable to give a satisfactory indication of the underlying trend. While it is possible to construct elaborate estimates of trend these cannot be applied to the most recent months, and a simple method of giving some guidance on underlying movements in the most recent past is to take averages of three months. Apart from occasions when major disturbances distort the flows of trade, the three-monthly average gives a quite good short-term guide and has the merit of simplicity.

1(e) Recording of exports. The new system for the documentation of exports to ensure their full recording has applied to goods shipped from 25 October 1971 (see *Trade and Industry*, 19 August 1971).

Regular assessments of the quality of recording under the new system have shown that, since the beginning of 1972, there has been no need to make adjustments to the export figures for either a shortfall in documentation or a change in the speed of submission of documents.

The new system for recording exports and the methods used to monitor its accuracy are described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973.

1(f) Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days

Exports by Commodity

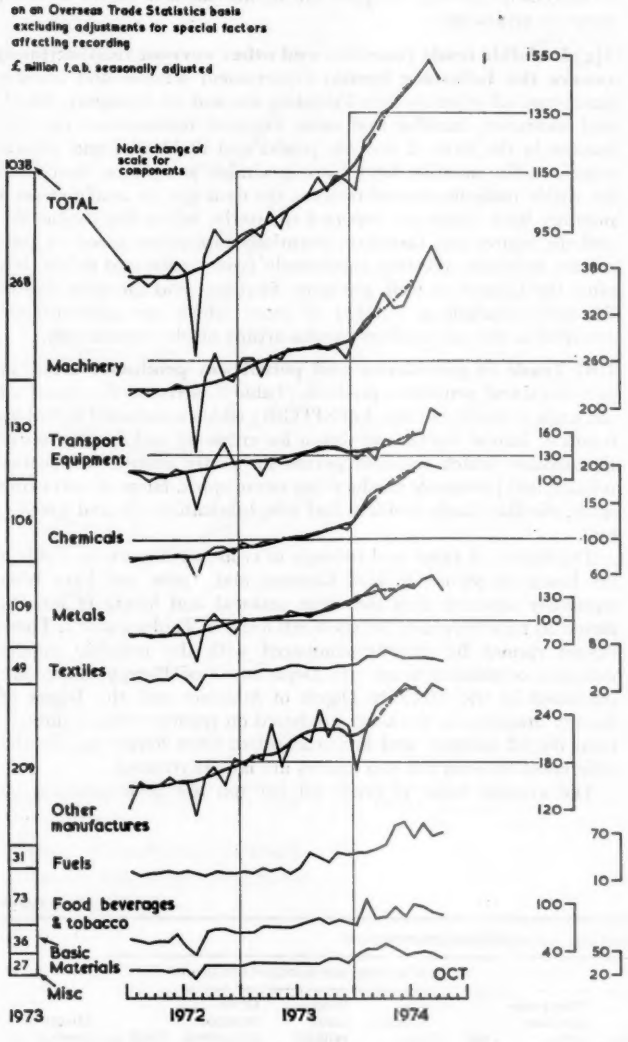

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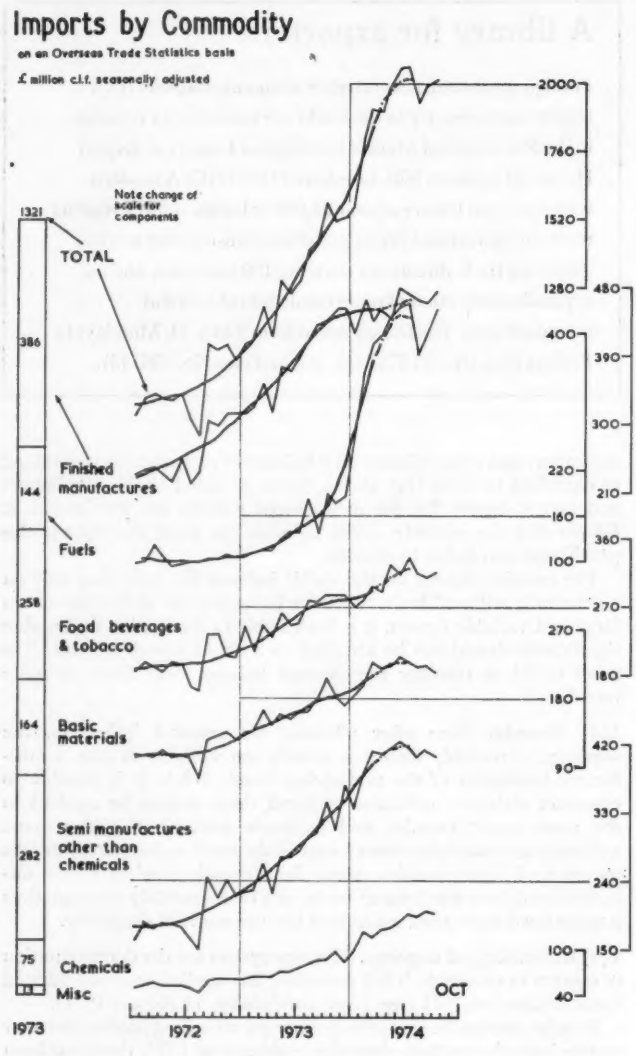
TABLE 6 Exports: Commodity classes¶ Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob per month

					Manufactures									
						Machinery and transport equipment								
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1973	1,038	73	36	31	871	398	268	92	38	106	109	49	209	27
1973 4th quarter	1,117	77	40	41	928	410	272	99	44	117	120	52	225	32
1974 1st quarter	1,215	87	50	46	1,000	436	310	97	37	149	138	61	214	30
2nd quarter	1,377	89	52	74	1,125	482	333	102	41	177	136	67	269	36
3rd quarter r	1,487	97	49	72	1,236	550	382	112	55	199	151	64	273	37
August	1,483	98	50	83	1,221	540	382	117	42	203	152	65	263	38
September r	1,534	91	48	67	1,307	598	406	114	75	199	158	64	283	26
October p	1,459	88	43	71	1,219	561	377	122	58	195	139	59	271	36
May-Jul.	1,409	95	50	77	1,138	486	337	103	43	185	141	65	273	38
Aug.-Oct. p	1,492	92	47	74	1,249	566	388	118	58	199	150	63	273	33

¶ See Note 1(b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.



before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at the Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

1(g) Invisible trade (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: Government services and transfer payments; all other services including sea and air transport, travel, and insurance, banking and other financial transactions; overseas income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers. The monthly figures are inevitably less precise than those for visible trade for several reasons: the data are not available on a monthly basis (some are reported quarterly, others less frequently) and the figures are, therefore, essentially projections based on past trends; revisions, affecting particularly gross credits and debits, but often the balance as well, are more frequent; and the gross figures themselves include a number of items which are appropriately recorded as the net profit or surplus arising on the transactions.

1(h) Trade in petroleum and petroleum products. Trade in petroleum and petroleum products (Table 9) accounts for almost all the trade in Fuels, Section 3 of SITC(R) which is included in Tables 6 and 7. Import figures are shown for crude oil and for the rest of the division which includes petroleum partly refined for further refining and petroleum products (eg motor spirit, lamp oil and white spirit, distillate fuels, residual fuel oils, lubricating oils and greases, etc).

The figures of value and tonnage of crude oil imports in Table 9 are based on reports to HM Customs and Excise and have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of months factors as have been used for the Fuels totals in Tables 6 and 7. These figures cannot be directly compared with the monthly import tonnages originating from the Department of Energy which are published in the Monthly Digest of Statistics and the Digest of Energy Statistics, as the latter are based on reports received directly from the oil industry and are unadjusted. Over longer periods the differences between the two sources are largely resolved.

The average value of crude oil per ton has been obtained by

TABLE 7 Imports: Commodity classes¶
Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif per month

		Industrial materials					Finished manufactures					
									Machinery and transport equipment				
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment	Other	Miscellaneous
1973	1,321	258	144	520	164	75	282	386	198	54	22	112	13
1973 4th quarter	1,541	285	185	615	185	90	340	447	227	57	29	131	15
1974 1st quarter	1,767	282	332	692	203	113	376	443	240	49	19	136	14
2nd quarter	1,980	311	419	771	226	130	414	458	246	46	21	143	19
3rd quarter r	1,991	322	405	785	225	149	411	467	248	64	24	137	20
August	1,929	316	374	772	221	147	404	465	254	71	22	135	20
September r	1,990	312	399	792	224	153	414	464	244	64	19	135	20
October p	2,014	317	432	768	214	148	406	476	252	59	37	130	20
May-Jul.	2,030	326	434	784	230	138	417	465	243	49	27	144	21
Aug.-Oct. p	1,978	315	402	777	220	149	408	468	250	65	26	134	20

¶ See Note 1(b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

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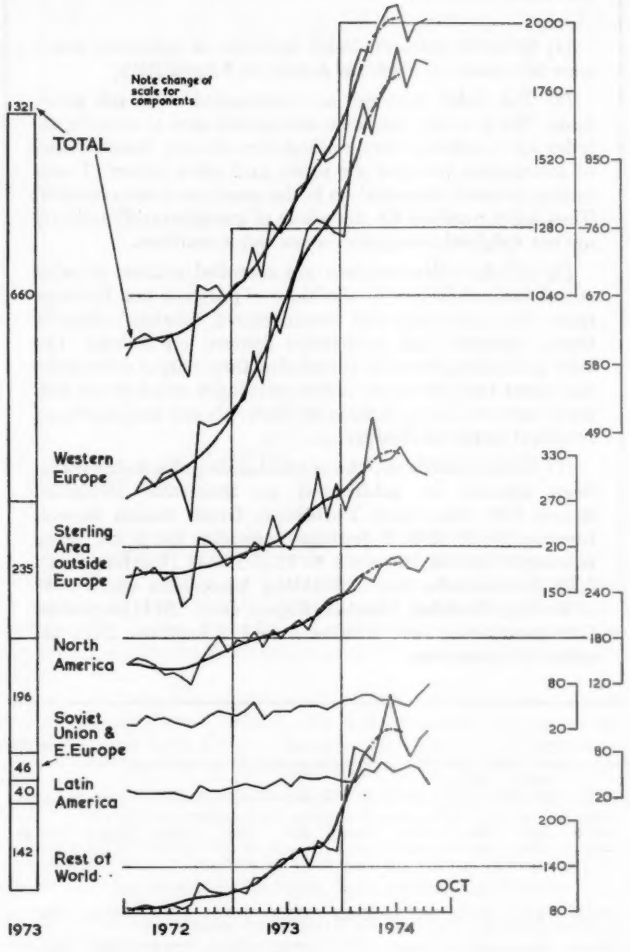
Imports by Areas

on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis

£million c.i.f. seasonally adjusted



dividing the value of crude oil imports by the tonnage and will reflect not only changes in price but also changes in the commodity mix of imports due, for example, to differing qualities of crude oil.

2 Overseas Trade Statistics: Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports for October with cumulative totals will be published in due course* and further analysis of the figures will be found in Tables 122 to 139 in the Monthly Digest for December†, due to be published in the second week of January.

* Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom, published by HMSO, price £2.50 (Annual subscription £33.60).

† Monthly Digest of Statistics, published by HMSO, price 63p (Annual subscription including Supplement of Definitions and postage £8.60).

TABLE 9 Balance of trade in petroleum and petroleum products ¶

(Division 33 of SITC(R))

Seasonally adjusted (2)
Balance of payments basis

Monthly averages

	Balance of visible trade	Imports				Exports	
		Total	Crude oil			Rest of division	Total
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	million tons	Average value £ per ton fob	£ million fob	£ million fob
1970	– 40	55	40	8.3	4.8	15	15
1971	– 54	72	55	8.8	6.3	17	18
1972	– 57	75	56	8.7	6.5	19	18
1973	– 79	107	78	9.4	8.3	29	28
1973 1st quarter	– 62	81	57	8.1	7.0	24	19
2nd quarter	– 75	95	70	9.4	7.4	25	20
3rd quarter	– 78	114	80	10.1	7.9	34	36
4th quarter	–100	139	106	9.8	10.8	33	39
1974 1st quarter	–240	285	231	9.6	24.1	54	45
2nd quarter	–306	374	308	9.7	31.7	66	68
3rd quarter r	–303	368	295	9.2	32.0	73	64
August	–264	338	275	8.7	31.7	63	75
September r	–301	360	299	9.2	32.3	61	59
October p	–330	392	319	9.7	32.9	73	62
May-Jul.	–321	392	312	9.8	31.8	80	71
Aug.-Oct. p	–298	363	298	9.2	32.3	66	65

¶ See Note 1(h).
r Revised estimates.
p Provisional estimates.

TABLE 8 Imports: Areas¶

Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values

£ million cif per month

	Total	Sterling area outside Europe	Western Europe inc. Irish Republic			North America	Latin America	Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	Rest of World
			Total	EEC	EFTA				
1973	1,321	235	660	433	198	196	40	46	142
1973 4th quarter	1,541	282	763	498	225	228	45	51	166
1974 1st quarter	1,767	282	850	570	240	247	48	61	273
2nd quarter	1,980	343	922	635	252	271	60	62	320
3rd quarter r	1,991	325	977	689	257	276	60	58	301
August	1,929	323	950	668	256	272	64	50	286
September r	1,991	310	986	701	255	269	58	67	308
October p	2,014	307	976	656	261	286	38	79	319
May-Jul.	2,030	331	960	670	252	282	61	58	331
Aug.-Oct. p	1,978	313	970	675	257	276	54	65	304

¶ See Note 1(b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

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Wholesale price indices in October

The price index of materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry increased in October by 3¼ per cent to 223.0 on provisional figures. This is the first significant increase in the last six months, during which the cost of basic materials and fuel for industry has risen by 2½ per cent.

The October increase in the index has been caused by the increase in the cost of crude oil on 1 October, the increase in the cost of coal, and increases in prices of certain other commodities especially silver and woodpulp. In addition there was an increase of 4¼ per cent in the cost of materials for the food manufacturing industry, with the higher prices of pigs, milk, imported cereals, oils and oilseeds being particularly important. There has however been a continued decrease in the cost of many imported commodities with tin, copper, raw cotton and wool being the most significant.

The provisional price index for home sales of manufactured products rose by 1¾ per cent to 161.2 in October. The prices of the products of the food manufacturing industry increased by 2¾ per cent with sugar, animal and poultry foods, bacon curing, meat and fish products having the greatest effect. These increases, together with the rise in new car prices, accounted for a half of the overall October increase. Most of the other sectors of industry had price increases of between 1 and 2 per cent with the products of the chemical and steel industries showing the smallest increases.

Materials and fuel purchased by broad sectors of industry (Table 1)

The increased prices for coal and coke were mainly responsible for a rise of 5 per cent in the index number for the materials and fuel purchased by the steel industry. This index has shown steady increases during the year and is now 15 per cent higher than six months

Notes on Wholesale Price Index Numbers

(1) Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry* of 4 April 1974.

(2) The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

(3) All the index numbers are compiled *exclusive* of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) *are included*. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by broad sectors of industry.

(4) **Correspondence about wholesale price index numbers should be addressed to Statistics Division, Room 610, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone inquiries for price index numbers should be made to 01-215 3549 (Engineering), 3509 (Chemicals, Steel, Building Materials, etc.), 3548 (Textiles, Clothing, Timber, Paper, etc.), 5844 (Imported Commodities), 5994 Tables 1 and 2 indices, 3411 all other information.**

TABLE 1 Price index numbers of materials purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1973		1974			1973	1974							
		3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr. p	Oct.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep. p	Oct. p
	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry														
Orders III to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	150.9	167.6	214.3	215.8	215.8	161.7	217.0	217.4	216.2	213.9	214.6	216.7	216.0	223.0
	Basic materials	154.7	173.1	223.9	223.6	222.9	166.6	226.3	225.4	224.1	221.2	221.9	223.8	223.0	229.8
	ø Fuel	114.3	114.9	122.4	142.7	147.5	114.9	128.6	141.4	142.6	144.0	144.8	148.8	148.8	157.1
Orders IV to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	146.8	165.0	223.2	231.2	230.5	159.0	226.7	231.3	232.3	229.9	230.6	231.6	229.3	235.7
	Basic materials other than fuel	151.4	172.1	237.6	243.7	242.3	165.2	240.6	244.2	244.9	242.0	242.7	243.4	240.8	246.9
	Materials and fuels purchased by Selected Broad Sectors of Industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	155.9	168.3	188.1	178.5	180.8	163.1	190.6	182.8	177.2	175.6	176.8	181.0	184.6	192.6
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	148.7	162.2	181.9	174.7	176.4	157.6	185.6	179.2	173.4	171.5	172.5	176.4	180.4	187.7
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	141.9	154.5	200.7	214.1	219.3	149.0	207.9	212.4	215.4	214.6	217.4	220.2	220.2	226.0
311 and 312	Steel industries	127.8	131.7	143.2	172.3	183.7	129.9	148.2	170.4	172.6	174.1	180.8	183.8	186.6	196.0
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	130.5	139.7	157.2	177.7	181.1	135.0	161.8	174.4	179.1	179.6	180.3	181.4	181.7	183.0
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries.	131.9	142.5	160.7	178.9	165.8	136.8	170.7	180.8	181.7	174.2	166.8	167.5	163.2	162.5
361	Electrical machinery industry	130.0	139.5	157.3	177.3	174.1	134.5	163.9	176.0	179.3	176.6	174.5	174.8	173.0	173.6
Order XIII	Textile industries	173.0	177.4	192.2	191.2	190.0	176.6	192.8	192.7	190.7	190.1	192.3	191.2	186.4	184.4
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	141.0	148.0	159.3	167.4	171.9	145.9	162.5	165.7	167.6	168.9	171.3	171.5	172.9	173.5
Order XVII	Timber industries	176.6	194.8	209.2	217.1	218.7	191.0	212.1	215.6	217.8	218.0	218.8	218.5	218.8	219.1
481 to 484	Paper industries	130.9	135.2	157.8	173.0	203.0	134.8	161.8	168.3	175.5	175.3	201.2	203.3	204.5	212.0
Order XX	Construction materials	141.6	149.0	162.2	175.6	179.7	146.4	167.4	172.6	176.2	178.1	178.7	179.5	181.0	182.0
Part of Order XX	House building materials	146.9	154.5	166.0	177.2	182.0	151.9	170.7	174.7	177.5	179.3	180.4	181.7	184.0	185.2

ø Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity. Crude oil and coal for carbonising are included in basic materials.

CHART 1

Manufacturing Industry (other than food, drink & tobacco)

the latest two months are provisional

CHART 2

Food Manufacturing Industry

the latest two months are provisional

ago. The index number for the paper industries rose by 3¾ per cent as a result of higher prices for woodpulp and to a smaller extent coal. The increased prices for palm oil, crude oil and coal were equally responsible for the rise in the index number for the chemicals industry of 2½ per cent.

The continued falls in the prices of raw wool and cotton have maintained the recent trend in the index number for the textile industries. This index has now fallen by 4¼ per cent in the last three months after showing no significant change in the previous quarter. The price index for the electrical engineering industries showed a slight fall during the month indicating a slowing down in the previous rate of decrease in the index.

The price index numbers of materials purchased by most other sectors of industry rose by less than 1 per cent during October.

Output of broad sectors of industry: home sales (Table 2)

The price index for the steel industries rose by only ½ per cent during October. This index has now increased by only 1¼ per cent during the last three months. The index for the paper industries continued its recent increase with a rise of 2¾ per cent in October with manufactured stationery showing the largest increase. The recent increases in new car prices have been mainly responsible for an increase in the index for engineering and allied industries of 1¾ per cent.

There was a 22 per cent rise in the price of rope and twine during October which was responsible for half the increase in the index number for the textile industries. The price index for the chemical industries rose by only 1¼ per cent with paint, soap and detergents making the largest contributions.

TABLE 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1973		1974			1973	1974							
		3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr. p	Oct.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep. p	Oct. p
Orders III to XIX	Output of Manufactured Products	124.2	129.1	138.3	148.9	156.0	127.7	142.3	146.4	149.0	151.2	153.5	156.1	158.5	161.2
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	127.3	132.1	142.3	153.5	161.9	130.6	146.8	150.8	153.3	156.2	159.1	161.9	164.6	167.6
	Output of Selected Broad Sectors of Industry														
211 to 229	Products of the food manufacturing industries	135.8	145.3	156.9	161.0	165.6	142.9	160.9	160.7	160.8	161.4	163.1	166.0	167.7	172.3
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Products of the food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	130.7	138.7	149.6	154.7	161.2	135.8	153.6	153.8	154.7	155.7	158.2	161.8	163.7	168.2
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	119.2	122.5	135.5	150.3	158.3	121.5	141.9	148.0	150.9	152.0	154.2	158.9	161.8	164.0
311 and 312	Steel industries	128.6	134.4	145.9	179.5	186.1	129.9	148.2	174.9	180.9	182.5	185.5	186.0	187.0	187.8
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	125.7	130.0	136.8	146.7	155.7	128.8	140.3	143.7	146.3	150.2	153.0	155.8	158.4	161.0
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	127.3	131.0	138.3	148.1	157.4	129.5	141.3	144.9	148.0	151.3	154.7	157.8	159.7	162.5
Order IX	Electrical engineering	120.6	124.6	131.5	139.9	146.3	123.4	134.6	137.7	140.2	141.9	144.7	145.9	148.2	151.2
Order XIII	Textile industries	134.5	142.4	151.6	160.4	166.5	140.1	154.4	158.4	161.0	162.0	165.2	166.6	167.8	170.2
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	122.9	127.3	133.7	138.7	143.7	126.3	135.4	137.4	138.9	139.9	142.0	142.8	146.4	149.0
Order XVII	Timber industries	145.7	153.5	165.8	174.7	181.9	151.4	170.2	172.0	174.7	177.4	179.7	182.4	183.7	185.2
481 to 484	Paper industries	125.2	131.4	145.1	160.0	179.9	130.7	150.2	155.8	160.3	163.9	173.6	180.0	186.0	191.0
Order XX	New Construction‡ ø	151	161	170	180 p			170			180 p				

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter (*Department of the Environment*). ø This index has been reweighted and revised from 1963 onwards.

TABLE 3(a) Commodities produced in the United Kingdom

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1973 Sep.	1974 Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep. p
101	Coal	135.6	181.6	181.6	181.6	181.6
102/1	Coated limestone roadstone	129.8	189.9	191.0	191.8	192.1
103	Sand and gravel – ex-pit or works	124.9	138.4	140.5	145.8	148.1
240	Tobacco	91.7	113.4	113.4	113.9	114.9
262	Motor spirit, Two star (including duty)	111.5	148.2	148.2	148.2	148.2
	Medium fuel oil (950 secs – including duty)⌀	133.7	250.9	250.9	250.9	250.9
	Derv fuel (including duty)⌀	108.9	142.6	142.6	142.6	142.6
263	Lubricating oil and greases	137.4	194.4	194.4	194.4	194.4
271	General chemicals	116.0	160.7 r	163.7 r	166.7	169.0
272	Pharmaceutical preparations	113.7	125.1	125.9	130.7	133.4
273	Toilet preparations*	125.8	135.4 r	137.4	139.3	140.0
274	Paint	128.0	163.1	163.9	166.1	167.3
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	106.6	158.3	162.9	164.0	164.8
279/3	Explosives, fireworks, etc.	134.7	154.9	154.9	165.5	165.5
311/2	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical sheets)	132.1	184.1	184.1	184.1	184.1
	Tinplate	131.4	194.2	203.9	203.9	203.5
	Finished steel (other than sheets, tinplate, forgings and castings)	128.0	186.6	188.1	188.9	189.2
	Steel sheet piling	132.6	193.3	193.3	193.3	193.3
	Heavy steel bars and sections	132.1	194.5	194.5	194.5	194.5
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	132.0	196.4	196.4	196.4	196.4
312	Steel tubes – other than electric conduit tubes	132.4	188.6	192.0	192.0	197.6
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	133.9	167.9	171.0	175.6	180.1
313/4	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	131.8	170.2	170.2	177.7	190.1
321	Aluminium: Rolled	117.6	142.5	142.5	151.7	156.7
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	119.3	142.1	142.1	151.3	156.3
	Aluminium: Castings	124.0	172.4	172.4	175.0	178.7
	Aluminium: Forgings	116.4	136.4	136.4	150.0	150.0
322	Brass ingots	125.1	184.0	154.2	151.7	137.6
331	Agricultural machinery	136.1	155.4	158.2	166.0	166.3
332	Metal working: Welding and physico-chemical machine tools and welding rods	130.7	161.0	166.3	168.0	171.4
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	127.3	149.8	152.5	158.0	158.9
336	Construction and earth moving equipment‡	131.2	151.9 r	155.6 r	156.5	156.9
368	Domestic electrical appliances	116.9	125.3	128.7	132.8	135.4
390	Engineers' cutting tools	119.7	131.0	132.6	134.9	137.1
	Engineers' cutting tools: non-diamond	119.6	131.0	132.7	134.9	136.9
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	116.4	127.0	127.0	130.0	134.4
	Hacksaw blades	125.7	136.7	139.0	141.2	142.6
391	Hand tools and implements	132.6	153.5	158.5	162.9	166.2
392	Cutlery and tableware	128.1	151.2	152.1	153.4	155.1
411	Man-made fibres production	107.1	141.7	147.8	149.3	151.4
412, 414/5 and 415	All spun man-made fibres yarns	131.8	156.6	157.3	159.1	160.7
412	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	165.2	189.8	188.3	189.1	188.8
413	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	151.5	193.2	195.0	195.9	196.2
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	135.7	170.2	176.4	182.8	186.8
414/2	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	194.8	194.2	189.9	186.1	184.6
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	118.5	139.3	142.7	143.6	144.1
419	Carpets and rugs	132.8	151.9	157.0	159.2	160.2
431/1	Leather for footwear	159.5	158.3	155.3	152.0	152.8
441/449	Made-up clothing	121.9	136.6	139.1	139.6	143.6
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	132.7	148.6	149.4	151.1	153.8
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	127.0	155.1	157.0	160.8	171.8
461/2	Non-refractory goods, including building bricks	137.3	162.5	163.9	169.7	171.2
	Engineering bricks – *delivered*	158.6	199.9	203.7	205.1	205.5
463/1	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	122.4	137.9	138.0	141.0	144.7
463/2	Glass containers	124.1	149.3	149.8	149.8	151.8
464	Cement – *delivered in bulk*	127.4	147.3	147.3	147.3	150.3
471/1	Hardwood – home grown	185.2	226.6	227.0	225.4	224.3
471/2	Building joinery	170.9	195.3	197.4	202.9	202.9
472	Domestic furniture	133.3	152.9	156.0	158.3	160.9
473	Bedding, etc.	137.6	171.6	172.0	172.7	174.8
481	Paper and board	125.2	161.9	179.1	185.6	188.6
	Printings and writings (excluding newsprint)	125.4	154.7	175.9	178.6	180.1
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibreboard packing cases	125.5	160.4	166.1	167.9	177.6
483	Manufactured stationery	132.0	162.0	168.9	172.3	177.5
484/1	Wallpaper	126.8	173.2	173.2	181.4	181.4
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	120.6	144.8	155.9 r	158.0	158.0
492	Linoleum and felt base	115.6	152.4	153.8	153.8	153.8

⌀ Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons exclusive of rebates.
Revised figures * Apr. '74 134.0 May '74 134.9 ‡ May '74 147.2

TABLE 3(b) Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom

1970 = 100

	1973 Oct.	1974 Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.
Hides and skins	198.9	168.4	164.9	157.8	134.2 p
Non-ferrous metals: Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	100.3	123.7	141.3	141.3	141.3
Copper‡	144.0	136.1	130.5	106.9	101.6
Lead‡	153.0	181.1	184.8	183.5	181.6
Nickel refined delivered§	116.8	124.3	144.0	144.0	146.6
Tin, ingot min. 99.75%‡	144.6	233.0	244.3	258.7	208.0
Zinc‡	388.2	372.2	368.8	319.1	286.8
Zinc§	195.4	257.9	257.9	269.1	281.4
Natural rubber	173.3	157.6	157.6	147.0	143.7 p
Sulphur, crude cif (for acid making)	96.7	168.6	168.6	168.6	168.6
Textiles: Cotton, raw	287.7	212.4	216.9	209.5	191.1
Wool, raw	305.5	243.8	227.6	202.3 p	187.9 p
Timber: Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	231.3	244.9	242.9	241.4 p	239.1 p
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	200.0	235.8	234.7	234.3	234.3 p
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	247.1	259.5	258.9	258.6	258.6 p
Woodpulp, imported	137.9	217.7	221.8	221.5	236.2

‡ LME settlement price. § Producer's price.

TABLE 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices(1)

1963 = 100

	Primary commodities											
	Total			Agricultural non-food			Non-ferrous metals			Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals[2]		
	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies
1973 1st quarter	156	181	144	153	177	141	174	201	161	157	182	145
2nd quarter	175	194	155	171	189	151	206	228	182	177	196	156
3rd quarter	199	225	169	203	229	172	242	273	205	202	228	171
4th quarter	221	260	197	208	245	185	267	314	238	225	265	200
1974 1st quarter	289	355	268	232	285	215	299	367	277	290	356	269
2nd quarter	292	341	260	227	265	202	342	399	304	296	346	264
3rd quarter[3]	*296*	*353*	*268*	*219*	*261*	*199*	*258*	*307*	*234*	*293*	*349*	*266*
October[3]	*306*	*367*	*278*	*213*	*256*	*194*	*231*	*277*	*210*	*300*	*360*	*273*

[1] Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates.
[2] This combined index is not published as such by the UN.
[3] Projections by Department of Industry shown in italics.

Index numbers of wholesale prices

The index numbers of wholesale prices relating to 1970 = 100 supersede those previously published on the base 1963 = 100. For the convenience of those who use the index numbers in long-term contracts to take account of changes in the costs of materials, the Department of Industry will continue to publish indices relating to materials used in broad sectors of industry on the base 1963 = 100 until December 1975. From April 1973 the index numbers in the accompanying table have been given the month to month movements of the equivalent index in the 1970 = 100 Series. For users of other 1963 based index numbers who wish to continue the series in this way, multiplication factors will be provided on request.

Price index numbers of materials purchased

1963 = 100

1968 SIC		1974		
		Aug.	Sep. p	Oct. p
Order III to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry	285.1	284.2	293.4
	Basic materials	296.2	295.1	304.1
	Fuel	197.5	197.5	208.5
Orders IV to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	314.1	310.9	319.6
	Basic materials other than fuel	334.3	330.8	339.2
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	225.7	230.2	240.2
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	271.1	271.1	278.2
311 to 312	Steel industries	232.4	235.9	247.8
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	247.8	248.2	250.0
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	257.9	251.3	250.2
361	Electrical machinery industry	258.1	255.5	256.3
Order XIII	Textile industries	217.4	212.0	209.7
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	209.0	210.7	211.4
Order XVII	Timber industries	294.0	294.4	294.8
481 to 484	Paper industries	268.8	270.4	280.3
Order XX	Construction materials	236.7	238.6	239.9
Part of Order XX	House building materials	241.1	244.2	245.8

Advertising in 'Trade and Industry'

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Retailers' stocks in September

The value of stocks at constant prices held by retailers at the end of September showed a fall of 3 per cent compared with the corresponding month last year. The recent year on year changes reflect, in part, the large increases of a year earlier.

At current prices the value of stocks was 18 per cent higher compared with a year earlier (see below).

Small revisions have been made to some of the constant price figures from June.

Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier*
(At cost at end of month)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
At current prices:												
1966	65	68	69	70	70	71	69	70	71	75	78	70
1967	68	69	71	72	72	73	71	72	73	78	81	72
1968	71	73	76	77	78	79	78	78	80	85	89	81
1969	79	81	84	85	86	86	85	84	86	92	96	87
1970	84	86	88	90	89	90	89	88	91	97	102	93
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	97	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	103	105	102	102	105	114	120	107
1973	103	106	110	108	110	113	112	113	117	127	135	124
1974	120	121	126	130	134	135	134	133	138			
1969	*11*	*11*	*11*	*10*	*9*	*8*	*9*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*8*
1970	*6*	*5*	*5*	*6*	*4*	*5*	*5*	*5*	*6*	*6*	*6*	*7*
1971	*6*	*6*	*7*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*7*	*9*	*8*	*8*
1972	*8*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*7*
1973	*8*	*8*	*9*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	*21*	*22*	*19*	*20*	*18*	*18*			
At constant (1970) prices:												
1966	88	91	93	93	94	95	92	92	94	99	102	91
1967	89	91	93	94	95	95	94	94	96	102	106	94
1968	93	95	98	97	99	100	97	98	100	106	111	100
1969	97	99	102	102	103	103	101	99	101	108	113	102
1970	97	99	101	102	101	101	99	98	100	106	111	100
1971	95	97	99	99	98	99	96	96	99	107	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	100	107	113	100
1973	97	99	102	109	110	112	110	109	113	120	126	114
1974	109	107	111	111	112	111r	109	107	109			
1969	*4*	*4*	*4*	*5*	*4*	*3*	*4*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*
1970	*1*	—	*−1*	—	*−2*	*−1*	*−2*	*−1*	*−1*	*−2*	*−2*	*−1*
1971	*−2*	*−2*	*−2*	*−3*	*−3*	*−2*	*−3*	*−2*	*−2*	—	—	—
1972	—	—	*1*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*2*	—
1973	*2*	*2*	*3*	*9*	*10*	*10*	*12*	*11*	*12*	*12*	*12*	*14*
1974	*12*	*9*	*8*	*2*	*2*	*−1r*	*−1r*	*−2*	*−3*			

r = revised figure.

Retailer's stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 were £1,899 million at current prices.

With the introduction of VAT, the current price estimates of stocks are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the current price series have not been given. As the basis of valuation is now comparable with that of a year earlier these percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

Engineering industries sales and orders (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX)

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders up to August 1974 are published in the accompanying table. The volume of total sales has been rising strongly in recent months, the export market being particularly buoyant, while net new orders have been declining and order books have stabilised.

The volume of total sales increased by 3½ per cent over the three months May to August and the latest trend is now about 2 per cent above the third quarter of 1973, which was the highest level reached last year. Home sales have been recovering from their depressed levels of earlier this year but are still about 3 per cent below levels reached last autumn. In comparison export sales continue to expand strongly and are about 16 per cent above last autumn's levels and have increased by 6 per cent over the most recent three months.

Total net new orders have continued to decline and latest figures show this to be wholly in the export field, where a fall of 12½ per cent is shown for the period May-August. The latest provisional export new orders are now running at about the level of sales. Home new orders, however, have shown a marked recovery from the low levels of earlier this year but have not regained a rate of inflow equal to current sales. The volume of total order-on-hand is static at very high levels with the trend estimates indicating a further slight decline in home orders-on-hand and an increase of 2 per cent in export order books.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to August 1974. The response rate of 79 per cent to the inquiry for August is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for May, June and July response rates for these months were 91, 92 and 88 per cent, respectively.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £1.40 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering respectively).

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders vii, viii and ix) (a)

These indices have been rebased on 1970 and are not comparable with those published previously.

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand, December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New net orders	Sales
Trend Estimates									
1973 April	109	131	112	114	136	117	99	120	101
May	112	133	113	117	137	117	101	124	102
June	115	136	113	120	139	118	105	128	102
July	118	138	114	123	140	118	108	134	103
August	121	140	114	125	141	119	112	138	103
September	124	141	114	128	140	118	117	142	103
October	128	139	113	131	137	117	122	143	103
November	131	135	112	133	132	116	126	143	103
December	133	130	111	134	125	114	131	143	103
1974 January	135	125	110	135	117	112	135	142	104
February	136	120	109	135	111	111	140	141	106
March	137	117	109	135	108	110	143	139	108
April	138	115	111	134	107	111	146	136	110
May	138	114	112	133	107	112	148	131	113
June	138	113	113	133	109	113	149	125	116
July	138	112	115	132	110	114	150	119	118
August	138	112	116	132	111	114	151	115	120
Percentage change (b)									
May-Aug. 1974	–	−2.0	3.5	−1.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	−12.5	6.0
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	135	136	117	131	130	102
1973 1st quarter	106	129	113	111	134	118	97	116	101
2nd quarter	114	131	111	119	134	115	105	124	101
3rd quarter	125	142	114	128	143	118	117	139	104
4th quarter	133	135	113	135	133	117	131	143	104
1974 1st quarter	136	117	109	133	108	111	143	139	105
2nd quarter	140	119	111	134	112	110	151	136	114
1973 July	118	144	115	123	150	120	108	132	105
August	121	135	114	125	133	117	112	139	104
September	125	146	112	128	146	117	117	145	102
October	127	131	114	130	130	119	121	135	102
November	131	147	116	133	142	121	127	157	104
December	133	129	109	135	125	112	131	136	105
1974 January	136	125	105	136	117	107	136	143	99
February	136	114	111	135	106	111	139	134	109
March	136	112	112	133	100	115	143	141	106
April	138	121	110	134	111	108	147	147	115
May	139	113	109	133	107	108	149	127	109
June	140	123	114	134	118	113	151	134	117
July	137	99	117	131	97	117	149	103	116
August	137	117	116	132	116	113	148	117	124
Mar.-May. 1974 (av).	139	115	110	133	106	110	149	138	110
June-Aug. 1974 (av.)	137	113	116	132	111	115	148	118	119
Percentage change (b)	−1.0	−2.5	5.0	−1.5	4.5	4.0	−0.5	−15.0	8.0

(a) All figures are provisional; see introductory notes in Business Monitor PM 33–36.
(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period.
(c) The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

Index of industrial production in September

The provisional estimate index of production for September 1974, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, is 109.1 (seasonally adjusted). For manufacturing industry alone the figure is 109.8.

For the three months July 1974 to September 1974, it is provisionally estimated that production as a whole was 1.1 per cent higher than the figures for the preceding three months, April 1974 to June 1974; for manufacturing industry alone there was also an increase of 1.1 per cent.

The average index numbers of the latest three months and the previous three months shown at the foot of the table give a general guide to the changes which have taken place in the output of the major groups in recent months.

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted

1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco				Chemicals and allied industries	Engineering and allied industries						
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products		Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods, n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1969	99.7	104.9	99.4	98.6	99.6	96.8	92.1	95.0	99.8	97.0	92.4	97.1	94.8	105.9	104.1
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	100.4	99.7	99.6	100.7	100.1	101.7	103.4	102.2	99.1	100.1	100.8	102.6	96.6	98.5	93.3
1972	102.4	84.0	102.0	105.0	104.2	106.4	102.6	108.0	99.4	95.1	93.1	110.3	91.8	101.6	94.2
1973	109.8	93.6	110.3	109.3	106.4	114.0	110.0	120.9	107.5	104.6	101.3	126.2	95.1	101.6	102.6
1972 2nd qtr.	102.9	96.1	101.6	104.7	103.6	106.5	101.7	107.9	98.9	95.3	92.0	107.9	94.1	101.5	94.0
3rd qtr.	103.7	95.5	102.8	105.3	105.2	105.5	107.1	108.7	99.7	92.9	96.0	111.6	91.4	103.6	96.4
4th qtr.	105.8	98.9	105.8	105.5	105.0	106.4	105.2	112.6	102.4	96.0	92.9	116.0	92.5	106.3	97.2
1973 1st qtr.	109.8	99.6	109.7	108.4	106.6	111.2	105.9	118.4	107.0	102.5	102.0	126.4	94.1	102.5	102.1
2nd qtr.	109.4	96.2	109.8	109.5	106.9	113.9	108.4	119.2	106.4	102.2	101.9	125.9	94.1	99.6	103.9
3rd qtr.	110.7	94.7	111.4	110.2	105.9	117.1	115.2	122.9	108.9	106.8	100.8	125.5	95.7	104.1	104.5
4th qtr.	109.5	83.9	110.4	109.0	105.9	113.9	110.7	123.2	107.7	107.1	100.4	126.6	96.4	100.2	99.8
1974 1st qtr.	103.7	57.8	105.8	114.9	110.2	122.7	101.9	127.9	101.8	101.2	101.1	121.8	85.8	89.6	99.1
2nd qtr.	108.5	90.1	109.7	111.7	105.6	121.7	110.8	131.2	107.3	105.1	107.6	122.6	96.7	97.8	108.2
3rd qtr.	109.7	93.7	110.9	110.8	104.5	121.3	106.5	135.6	109.2	107.0	107.3	124.3	97.1	100.6	110.3
1973 Nov.	110.4	83	111.7	110	107	114	111	125	109	109	102	128	97	100	102
Dec.	106.6	76	107.5	107	105	111	107	119	104	103	98	123	97	95	97
1974 Jan.	101.5	71	102.5	118	111	129	97	127	98	99	97	120	82	85	95
Feb.	103.3	43	106.8	115	111	123	103	132	103	102	103	124	87	90	99
Mar.	106.3	59	108.1	112	109	116	106	125	104	102	104	122	89	94	103
Apr.	108.1	88	109.5	112	105	125	111	134	106	104	106	123	97	94	107
May	108.1	91	108.9	113	107	122	115	130	108	105	108	122	97	99	108
June	109.3	91	110.8	110	105	118	106	130	108	106	109	122	96	100	110
Jul.	110.0	94	111.1	111	105	120	98	135	109	107	109	122	97	101	113
Aug.	110.1	94	111.8	111	104	121	114	135	110	107	107	125	97	105	111
Sept.	109.1	93	109.8	111	104	122	108	137	108	107	107	125	97	96	107
Apr.-June (av.)	108.5	90	109.7	112	106	122	111	131	107	105	108	122	97	98	108
July-Sept. (av.)	109.7	94	110.9	111	104	121	107	136	109	107	108	124	97	101	110

	Manufacturing industries (continued)												Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.						
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1969	100.3	100.4	100.0	100.4	100.2	103.0	100.4	103.7	102.7	105.2	99.7	99.3	99.5	102.0	96.2
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	91.4	89.4	97.7	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.4	109.8	103.0	97.3	100.6	102.9	103.9
1972	90.8	89.2	95.7	104.6	103.0	104.5	107.7	114.2	113.7	115.1	113.5	101.9	104.6	105.2	111.2
1973	99.5	97.3	106.1	109.6	108.1	101.0	113.8	126.3	125.0	128.2	130.2	112.8	111.3	107.5	117.8
1972 2nd qtr.	91.2	90.8	92.5	103.6	102.7	103.7	105.4	114.9	114.4	115.8	113.6	101.3	103.0	106.8	112.3
3rd qtr.	92.7	90.9	98.5	106.7	105.3	105.0	109.9	113.9	113.8	114.0	112.9	102.8	107.1	104.8	114.8
4th qtr.	98.5	96.2	105.9	108.3	107.6	105.6	110.2	123.8	122.0	126.7	119.8	105.9	110.5	103.3	114.2
1973 1st qtr.	99.8	97.8	106.1	109.6	110.4	103.0	109.0	125.8	128.4	121.8	135.2	109.0	113.9	110.5	114.6
2nd qtr.	99.1	96.5	107.2	111.3	110.1	102.3	115.1	125.7	124.5	127.6	129.8	110.8	112.6	106.3	118.7
3rd qtr.	100.0	97.3	108.7	108.5	106.1	99.9	114.8	128.0	124.8	133.0	129.6	116.0	109.9	107.7	117.4
4th qtr.	98.9	97.8	102.5	108.8	105.8	99.0	116.4	125.6	122.4	130.6	126.1	115.4	108.8	105.7	120.6
1974 1st qtr.	88.7	83.9	103.5	98.6	98.8	87.9	99.6	116.9	106.2	133.7	113.6	108.6	110.3	101.7	109.5
2nd qtr.	90.6	85.5	106.7	106.8	104.1	94.4	114.1	124.4	118.0	134.4	113.6	112.4	110.6	100.9	120.8
3rd qtr.	93.9	89.9	106.5	106.8	102.0	98.4	118.0	120.2	114.1	129.7	110.2	114.5	109.7		126.1
1973 Nov.	100	99	105	111	107	100	119	127	123	133	130	116	110		120
Dec.	98	96	105	106	103	96	113	123	120	127	120	114	106		115
1974 Jan.	84	79	99	92	92	83	95	110	99	127	107	104	105		106
Feb.	90	85	107	98	99	89	96	115	104	132	117	111	107		106
Mar.	92	88	105	106	106	92	107	126	115	143	117	111	119		117
Apr.	91	86	106	108	106	93	113	127	119	138	115	112	109		118
May	84	78	104	103	101	92	110	123	116	133	112	112	107		124
June	96	92	110	110	106	98	119	124	118	132	115	113	116		120
July	93	90	102	108	101	98	122	120	118	124	109	117	111		128
Aug.	93	94	106	109	106	99	117	121	112	136	110	114	109		121
Sept.	91	85	111	104	99	99	115	119	113	129	112	112	109		129
Apr.-June (av.)	90	85	107	107	104	94	114	125	118	134	114	112	111		121
July-Sept. (av.)	94	90	106	107	102	99	118	120	114	130	110	114	110		126

Activity in the textiles and clothing industries

This article reviews activity in the textiles and clothing industries for the first half of 1974. It is one of a series published at intervals in *Trade and Industry*.

Demand

After its buoyant year in 1973 home demand for textiles and clothing slackened in the first half of 1974. Consumer expenditure on clothing which fell slightly in the first quarter, dropped by 4 per cent in the second quarter; expenditure on household textiles and soft furnishings also fell significantly in the second quarter although the level in the first quarter was unusually high, possibly the result of pre-Budget spending.

Reflecting this fall in expenditure, estimated home consumption of yarns and fabrics declined in the first half of the year by 10 per cent in weight and 17 per cent in area respectively.

Despite the easing in home demand, imports have continued to rise and to increase their share of the home market aided, to some extent, by the constraints on the home industry imposed by the three-day working week at the beginning of the year and by some material shortages. The liberalisation of imports from the Mediterranean associates of EEC, however, contributed significantly to the growth in imports of cotton yarn.

During the first half of the year exports have increased considerably in terms of value, following the upsurge in prices, but only moderately in terms of quantity.

TABLE 1 Comparison of textile and clothing output with some factors affecting demand

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1972 3rd qtr	1972 4th qtr	1973 1st qtr	1973 2nd qtr	1973 3rd qtr	1973 4th qtr	1974 1st qtr	1974 2nd qtr	Growth rate per cent p.a. 1968/73	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q2 1973/ Q2 1974
Gross domestic product at factor cost (expenditure based)	97.1	98.5	100.0	102.0	104.0	109.5	103.8	106.2	111.1	108.6	109.6	108.8	107.1	109.9	2.4	2.6
Consumer's expenditure																
All items	97.3	97.6	100.0	102.6	108.7	113.9	109.8	111.3	115.3	112.0	114.1	114.1	113.6	112.1	3.2	1.2
Clothing	96.1	96.8	100.0	100.6	108.1	114.4	112.0	112.0	120.2	110.2	112.8	114.2	113.3	108.6	3.5	−1.2
Household textiles and soft furnishings	105.9	104.2	100.0	105.2	115.9	122.0	116.3	120.4	137.0	119.0	119.0	116.3	126.0	113.5	3.0	−3.6
Output of total manufacturing	95.8	99.4	100.0	99.5	102.1	110.3	102.8	105.8	109.7	109.8	111.4	110.4	105.8	109.7	2.9	2.1
Output of textiles	97.1	100.2	100.0	100.7	103.0	108.1	105.1	107.3	110.4	110.1	106.1	105.8	98.8	104.1	2.2	−4.2
Deliveries of made-up clothing	96.8	97.4	100.0	104.2	108.7	116.7	109.3	114.7	111.9	119.6	116.1	119.0	99.8	110.2	3.8	−2.3

TABLE 2 Output

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (Quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

	1968 MLH	Weights	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1972 3rd qtr	1972 4th qtr	1973 1st qtr	1973 2nd qtr	1973 3rd qtr	1973 4th qtr	1974 1st qtr	1974 2nd qtr	Growth per cent p.a. 1968/73	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q2 73/ Q2 74
Man-made fibres	411	14.5	86.7	91.8	100.0	106.1	107.2	127.3	107.3	116.8	126.2	127.8	125.9	129.3	116.9	116.1	8.0	2.1
Spinning and doubling on cotton system (a)	412 part	11.7	81.8	90.3	100.0	103.2	103.4	112.5	111.3	110.4	115.7	121.0	106.6	106.6	96.5	111.6	6.6	−8.1
Weaving of cotton and man-made fibres	413 part	6.9	108.6	109.2	100.0	95.1	91.6	93.4	92.3	92.1	93.2	95.5	94.2	90.8	74.2	98.4	−3.0	−4.2
Woollen and worsted	414	17.6	111.0	109.6	100.0	98.0	97.7	97.5	103.5	100.4	101.6	97.7	97.7	93.3	85.1	94.8	−2.6	−8.0
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	19.0	87.7	97.6	100.0	99.5	99.7	102.9	100.0	100.5	104.4	104.0	101.2	101.9	96.6	100.5	3.2	−2.1
Carpets	419	8.0	100.7	99.0	100.0	107.8	121.9	125.9	128.2	126.7	131.8	131.0	121.8	119.1	121.0	118.8	4.6	−7.2
(Order XIII) (b)	411-429	100.0	97.1	100.2	100.0	100.8	102.7	108.1	104.6	107.2	110.8	110.3	105.6	105.6	95.5	102.5	2.2	−5.5

(a) Includes texturing of man-made continuous filament yarns.
(b) In addition to sectors listed above includes, jute, rope, twine and net, lace, narrow fabrics, made-up textiles, textile finishing, and other textile industries. Their combined weight in the total index is 22.3 per cent.

TABLE 3 Production of man-made fibres

	1968 mn kg.	1969 mn kg.	1970 mn kg.	1971 mn kg.	1972 mn kg.	1973 mn kg.	1972 3rd qtr mn kg.	1972 4th qtr mn kg.	1973 1st qtr mn kg.	1973 2nd qtr mn kg.	1973 3rd qtr mn kg.	1973 4th qtr mn kg.	1974 1st qtr mn kg.	1974 2nd qtr mn kg.	Growth rate per cent p.a. 1968/73	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q2 73/ Q2 74
Staple fibre																
Synthetic	124	135	170	166	177	221	42	45	52	56	54	59	53	53	12.3	12.3
Viscose and acetate	173	166	172	170	185	204	44	49	53	51	47	53	51	50	3.4	2.0
Total	297	301	342	336	362	425	86	94	105	107	101	112	104	103	7.4	7.1
Continuous filament yarn																
Synthetic	144	156	167	191	196	233	46	57	60	61	54	58	52	51	10.1	−4.0
Viscose and acetate	98	97	91	85	68	73	17	18	18	19	17	19	18	21	−5.3	4.2
Total	242	253	258	276	264	306	63	75	78	80	71	78	70	72	4.8	−1.7
All man-made fibres																
Synthetic	268	291	337	357	373	454	88	101	112	117	108	117	105	104	11.1	3.8
Viscose and acetate	271	263	263	255	253	277	61	67	71	70	64	72	69	71	0.4	2.6
Total	539	554	600	612	626	731	149	168	183	187	172	190	174	175	6.3	3.5

Output

It is now clear that the peak in the textile cycle was reached in the first half of 1973. Since then output in all sectors has fallen. The effect of the three-day working week in the first quarter and the subsequent recovery in the second make the precise extent of the downward trend difficult to assess, but the average level of production in the first half year was 10 per cent below that of first half 1973. In contrast, output of all manufacturing industry fell by 2 per cent over the same period.

Within the individual textile sectors, production of man-made fibres was steady in both the first and second quarters of 1974 at 8 per cent below the high level of 1973. Output in the first quarter was less affected by the three-day working period than in other sectors of the textile industry since manufacturers were able to rely to a considerable extent on their own generating plant and, as continuous processors, benefited from some relaxation in the restrictions on the use of power. Unlike the other sectors, however, there was no improvement in the second quarter, due largely to the strike in Northern Ireland. The industry is going through a difficult period with reduced demand from downstream users and constraints on supply due to continuing chemical feedstock shortages and after effects of the Flixborough disaster and industrial stoppages. Additionally, the comparative price advantage held by man-made fibres over natural fibres began to be eroded during the first half of this year and the strong growth in consumption of man-made fibres in the cotton and woollen and worsted industries during 1973 has levelled off.

The cotton, woollen and worsted, hosiery and made-up clothing industries shared the common experience of a sharp drop in output in the first quarter followed by a recovery, in varying degrees, in the second. The carpet industry, however, maintained output in the first quarter at much the same level as in the second half 1973 (probably helped by unusually large deliveries from stock) but fell away slightly in the second quarter.

Order books for the textile industry shortened over the first half of this year. Those in the made-up clothing industry, while declining slightly, nevertheless still stood at a high level at end June 1974. The outlook for both industries, however, is for less buoyant trading conditions and sharper competition.

TABLE 4 Consumption of fibres

	1968 mn kg.	1969 mn kg.	1970 mn kg.	1971 mn kg.	1972 mn kg.	1973 mn kg.	1972 3rd qtr mn kg.	1972 4th qtr mn kg.	1973 1st qtr mn kg.	1973 2nd qtr mn kg.	1973 3rd qtr mn kg.	1973 4th qtr mn kg.	1974 1st qtr mn kg.	1974 2nd qtr mn kg.	Growth rate per cent p.a. 1968/73	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q2 73/ Q2 74
In 'cotton' spinning																
Raw cotton	172	169	165	140	129	126	31	35	35	33	28	30	26	30	−6.0	−14.9
Man-made staple fibre rayon	43	39	33	34	32	36	7	9	9	9	8	10	9	11	−3.5	11.8
Other	16	23	32	36	34	37	8	10	10	10	8	9	7	9	18.2	−13.2
In top making, wool spinning and felting																
Wool and animal hair	192	190	166	151	165	149	39	43	44	38	32	35	31	36	−4.9	−18.3
Man-made staple fibre	76	80	84	77	86	105	20	23	26	26	24	30	24	30	6.7	13.7

TABLE 5 Prices

Index numbers 1970 = 100

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1972 3rd qtr	1972 4th qtr	1973 1st qtr	1973 2nd qtr	1973 3rd qtr	1973 4th qtr	1974 1st qtr	1974 2nd qtr
Price index numbers of output (home sales):														
All manufactured products	89.9	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	115.6	118.0	119.5	120.1	124.2	129.1	138.3	148.8
Textile industries	94.1	96.9	100.0	104.9	112.2	131.7	112.9	118.1	122.3	127.7	134.5	142.4	151.6	160.4
Man-made fibre cloth	93.7	96.0	100.0	106.8	114.8	132.7	116.2	120.0	121.6	126.6	134.1	146.2	152.8	167.0
Cotton cloth	85.0	91.7	100.0	108.0	117.4	138.9	119.3	121.2	122.2	128.0	144.0	161.2	182.7	189.8
Worsted cloth	92.1	95.8	100.0	103.9	118.0	173.3	117.2	135.4	154.9	174.7	180.8	183.4	188.0	191.1
Socks, stockings & tights (inc Pantihose)	100.7	100.9	100.0	100.9	102.3	107.1	102.4	104.8	105.9	106.2	107.3	108.8	112.1	118.1
Knitted underwear & nightwear	93.0	97.1	100.0	104.2	111.1	126.8	110.7	116.4	118.9	122.9	128.0	137.5	141.5	148.9
Knitted outer wear	97.0	98.2	100.0	101.5	105.3	119.0	106.4	107.9	110.4	118.1	122.0	125.6	131.8	137.0
Carpets	93.6	96.6	100.0	104.9	111.7	130.2	112.4	118.2	125.1	127.7	132.7	135.1	141.5	150.6
Made-up clothing	94.2	96.4	100.0	106.4	112.3	119.4	112.8	114.9	115.7	117.0	119.8	125.0	131.5	135.4
Price index numbers of material and fuel purchased:														
Textile industries	97.2	98.6	100.0	104.8	119.0	164.7	118.5	134.2	156.7	159.7	173.0	177.4	192.2	191.1
Commodities wholly or mainly imported														
Raw cotton	104.4	96.4	100.0	112.9	116.6	204.2	109.4	121.8	134.2	153.6	246.5	282.5	293.8	228.9
Raw wool	117.6	112.4	100.0	94.9	156.3	332.3	157.1	228.9	343.1	329.6	337.1	319.5	308.5	264.9
Man-made fibres	97.9	98.5	100.0	103.1	103.6	105.8	103.7	104.7	104.3	104.5	106.9	107.4	111.5	136.5

TABLE 6 Employment in textiles (a)

Thousand

	MLH	June 1971	June 1971	June 1972	Sept. 1972	Dec. 1972	March 1973	June 1973	Sept. 1973	Dec. 1973	March 1974	June 1974
Great Britain												
Textiles	411-429	612.3	581.2	558.0	562.2	559.3	558.6	555.0	550.9	550.3	536.7	535.3
Production of man-made fibres	411	44.2	38.4	35.7	35.3	34.8	35.1	35.7	34.7	34.9	34.5	34.7
Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	412	76.7	71.1	63.5	63.0	62.8	61.9	61.7	61.4	60.5	58.3	105.8
Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	413	56.3	54.3	49.0	48.9	48.9	48.9	48.8	48.7	48.2	47.5	
Woollen and worsted	414	120.1	113.2	107.0	108.6	108.0	108.3	106.7	105.6	106.2	101.4	101.3
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	124.1	127.4	127.5	129.1	128.6	128.3	127.0	125.6	124.8	123.0	122.9
Carpets	419	41.3	41.9	43.1	43.4	43.6	43.2	43.0	42.9	43.4	42.8	n.a.
Textile finishing	423	53.2	50.9	50.0	51.2	51.7	51.3	51.4	51.3	51.1	49.8	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	441-450	377.5	429.1	425.7	430.9	430.1	426.4	417.6	411.1	413.6	403.7	401.0

(a) Employees in employment at middle of each month. From June 1971 employment data has been revised following a new method of obtaining information described in the August 1973 issue of the Department of Employment Gazette. Figures are shown on the old and new basis for June 1971.

TABLE 7 Crude trade balance (a)

£ million at current prices

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1972 3rd qtr (b)	1972 4th qtr	1973 1st qtr	1973 2nd qtr	1973 3rd qtr	1973 4th qtr	1974 1st qtr	1974 2nd qtr
Textile fibres (Div. 26)														
Exports	93.2	101.8	96.4	87.3	108.1	172.1	20.5	33.1	40.0	44.9	40.1	47.1	55.0	61.1
Imports	219.4	210.4	183.9	150.0	213.7	322.4	44.2	61.4	88.8	88.6	69.9	75.1	88.9	92.8
Balance	−126.2	−108.6	−87.6	−62.7	−105.6	−150.3	−23.7	−28.3	−48.8	−43.7	−29.8	−28.0	−33.9	−31.7
Textile yarns, fabrics, etc. (Div. 65)														
Exports	309.3	360.6	396.8	425.8	445.4	589.5	92.8	131.4	130.7	151.8	142.4	164.6	179.5	204.6
Imports	231.2	238.7	256.4	324.9	369.7	514.9	83.8	107.3	122.2	118.8	125.9	148.0	169.5	167.9
Balance	+78.1	+121.9	+140.4	+100.9	+75.7	+74.6	+9.0	+24.1	+8.5	+33.0	+16.5	+16.6	+10.0	+36.7
Clothing (Div. 84)														
Exports	84.5	108.5	123.1	129.5	144.3	179.6	39.0	42.5	35.2	37.3	50.7	56.4	44.3	50.8
Imports	110.1	124.5	129.4	178.2	218.8	333.6	52.5	64.3	71.4	75.6	89.5	97.1	105.6	102.1
Balance	−25.6	−16.0	−6.3	−48.7	−74.5	−154.0	−13.5	−21.8	−36.2	−38.3	−38.8	−40.7	−61.3	−51.3

(a) Imports cif, exports fob.
(b) Trade affected by dock strike, 28 July to 21 August.

TABLE 8 Imports

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and 651.4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and 653.6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and 657.6)	Total yarns, fabrics, etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and 841.2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1968	17.4	2.3	219.4	2.0	8.8	25.4	3.6	67.3	8.8	33.0	7.0	18.8	231.2	58.4	44.9	110.1
1969	15.3	3.2	210.4	2.6	9.1	38.0	4.8	58.0	7.6	36.4	9.6	18.1	238.7	68.8	49.0	124.5
1970	13.3	3.3	183.9	3.9	9.8	38.4	5.6	53.5	7.6	42.2	13.0	20.1	256.4	70.7	51.4	129.4
1971	16.9	2.8	150.0	4.1	10.2	54.2	7.3	70.4	7.9	57.1	16.6	22.0	324.9	99.6	68.8	178 2
1972	24.9	4.3	213.7	6.3	12.5	52.8	9.2	74.2	8.2	78.6	14.0	28.0	369.7	123.7	82.7	218.8
1973	35.4	5.3	322.4	11.0	15.5	70.7	17.0	103.5	11.8	115.3	12.7	41.4	514.9	197.8	112.3	333.6
1972																
Jan.-Mar.	5.3	0.9	51.5	1.3	3.2	14.4	2.0	18.7	1.8	17.7	3.8	6.3	90.0	30.7	19.7	53.0
April-June	5.8	1.0	56.6	1.5	3.3	12.6	2.1	17.4	2.1	18.0	3.7	6.5	88.6	27.7	18.9	49.0
July-Sept.†	6.2	1.0	44.2	1.5	2.7	10.8	2.0	16.1	2.0	19.5	3.1	6.8	83.8	28.9	20.6	52.5
Oct.-Dec.	7.6	1.4	61.4	2.0	3.3	15.0	3.1	22.0	2.3	23.4	3.4	8.4	107.3	36.4	23.6	64.3
1973																
Jan.-Mar.	8.4	0.9	88.8	2.7	3.7	15.7	3.3	27.3	2.5	26.2	3.3	9.2	122.2	42.6	25.2	71.4
April-June	8.3	0.9	88.6	3.1	3.0	16.6	4.1	21.4	3.3	25.9	3.0	10.6	118.8	45.7	25.0	75.6
July-Sept.	9.0	1.5	69.9	2.4	3.7	17.4	4.6	25.7	2.9	28.7	2.9	10.0	125.9	52.7	29.8	89.5
Oct.-Dec.	9.7	2.0	75.1	2.8	5.1	21.0	5.0	29.1	3.1	34.5	3.5	11.6	148.0	56.8	32.3	97.1
1974																
Jan.-Mar.	11.8	1.2	88.9	2.2	10.7	17.8	6.5	42.3	3.2	37.6	3.5	10.7	169.5	64.3	35.6	105.6
April-June	14.7	1.6	92.8	2.7	11.4	26.7	7.8	31.1	3.8	35.3	3.9	10.3	167.9	63.4	32.9	102.1

* Less 841.45.
† Trade affected by dock strike, 28 July to 21 August.
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 9 Exports

£ million at current prices (fob)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and 651.4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and 653.6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and 657.6)	Total yarns, fabrics, etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and 841.2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1968	33.6	24.0	93.2	20.4	10.7	46.1	4.3	28.2	66.5	20.6	11.4	29.5	309.3	45.7	26.2	84.5
1969	42.3	26.6	101.8	23.3	11.4	53.7	7.0	28.4	71.3	27.5	21.2	37.3	360.6	58.5	34.1	108.5
1970	47.0	20.4	96.4	23.4	11.0	68.6	8.6	26.7	70.1	32.3	38.9	39.4	396.8	60.5	45.0	123.1
1971	45.5	16.3	87.3	23.3	10.1	80.4	9.6	28.6	62.8	31.6	54.4	43.5	425.8	61.8	49.0	129.5
1972	56.5	19.8	108.1	27.3	11.7	83.8	10.9	29.0	66.9	37.4	43.2	51.6	445.4	70.2	53.5	144.3
1973	77.7	38.1	172.1	37.0	17.0	110.0	18.6	39.5	91.5	49.9	43.1	78.2	589.5	86.9	68.0	179.6
1972																
Jan.-Mar.	13.1	4.0	24.2	6.1	2.7	19.9	2.5	7.5	13.7	9.5	11.9	11.4	105.0	16.1	10.9	31.9
April-June	16.6	5.2	30.3	7.6	3.0	21.6	3.1	7.1	17.4	10.0	11.7	12.5	116.2	15.7	10.7	30.9
July-Sept.†	10.9	4.0	20.5	5.8	2.4	17.6	2.2	5.6	15.6	7.2	9.2	10.2	92.8	18.6	15.5	39.0
Oct.-Dec.	15.9	6.6	33.1	7.8	3.6	24.7	3.1	8.8	20.2	10.7	10.4	17.5	131.4	19.8	16.4	42.5
1973																
Jan.-Mar.	17.1	9.4	40.0	9.0	3.9	26.3	3.7	8.8	18.3	10.4	9.9	16.7	130.7	17.3	13.0	35.2
April-June	18.5	11.0	44.9	9.5	4.6	29.8	4.4	9.4	24.6	12.2	12.3	18.6	151.8	18.8	12.8	37.3
July-Sept.	18.5	9.4	40.1	9.1	3.9	25.0	4.4	9.2	24.0	12.0	10.4	19.0	142.4	24.5	19.5	50.7
Oct.-Dec.	23.6	8.3	47.1	9.4	4.6	28.9	6.1	12.1	24.6	15.3	10.5	23.9	164.6	26.3	22.1	56.4
1974																
Jan.-Mar.	29.3	8.6	55.0	10.5	5.0	37.4	6.9	11.9	24.6	15.8	10.8	24.5	179.5	22.0	15.4	44.3
April-June	35.7	7.8	61.1	12.1	5.7	41.5	8.0	13.6	29.8	18.4	11.6	26.9	204.6	26.2	16.5	50.8

* Less 841.45.
† Trade affected by dock strike, 28 July to 21 August.
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 10 Imports of raw materials

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Greasy wool (262.1)		Degreased wool (262.2)		Fine animal hair (262.3)		Raw cotton* (263.1)	
	mn kg.	£m	mn kg.	£m	mn kg.	£m	mn kg.	£m
1968	181	73	66	26	13	11	193	51
1969	171	73	64	26	15	14	162	43
1970	149	68	57	22	10	9	167	44
1971	99	33	62	21	9	5	142	41
1972	130	56	77	23	18	13	137	44
1973	95	93	56	55	15	26	171	66
1972 January-March	41	14	21	7	6	3	43	14
April-June	38	15	21	9	5	3	29	8
July-September	22	9	16	7	3	2	29	10
October-December	29	18	19	10	4	5	36	11
1973 January-March	40	33	17	15	4	5	42	13
April-June	26	28	16	16	5	8	50	17
July-September	14	15	15	15	3	6	38	16
October-December	15	17	8	9	3	7	41	21
1974 January-March	23	26	19	13	2	5	28	18
April-June	20	21	22	15	3	8	27	18

* 1968-69 includes small amount of carded or combed cotton.
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

Prices

The strong upward trend in prices of textile products which was apparent throughout 1973 continued in the first half of 1974. The first sign of a check to rising textile prices, however, was provided by the price index of 'materials and fuel purchased' which, after increasing sharply for two years, fell marginally in the second quarter 1974 below the first quarter level. Within the index, prices of raw cotton and wool showed substantial falls, but the price of man-made fibres went up. The overall check in the increase in prices of materials and fuel is reflected in part at least, in the lower rate of increase in textile product prices which, in the second quarter of 1974, fell back to the average rate of all manufactured goods. Price increases in the made-up clothing industry continued at below the average rate of all manufactures.

Employment

The number of employees in the textile industry at the end of June 1974 was 3½ per cent down on June 1973, with all sectors of the industry similarly affected. Employment in the made-up clothing industry fell by 4 per cent in the same period. In spite of these reductions, reports from industry suggest that there are shortages, in some areas, of operatives and technical staff.

Imports and exports

The crude trade balance, in current prices, for textile yarns and fabrics in the first half of 1974 was 12 per cent greater than in the first half of 1973. The value of exports increased substantially by £102 million to £384 million while imports also rose considerably by £96 million to £337 million. There was also an improvement in the balance for textile fibres with the deficit reduced from £93 million in the first half of 1973 to £66 million this year. The trade deficit for clothing, however, continued to deteriorate and in the first half of the year amounted to £113 million compared with £75 million (itself a record) in the corresponding period of last year.

The value of imports of most textiles, in current price terms, continued to rise, the most notable increases being those in cotton yarns and cotton cloth. Much of these increases, however, was due to higher average values which reflected the soaring price of cotton in the latter part of 1973 and early 1974. Imports of cotton yarn and thread rose very substantially and more than trebled in value. Imports from most sources were higher with Turkey and Greece (who now enjoy EEC associate member terms of entry into the UK market) accounting for the largest increases.

Imports of grey cotton cloth rose by 78 per cent in value but the increase in square yards is provisionally reported to have been as low as 3 per cent. There was a dramatic rise in imports from China, with much of it accounted for by cloth for processing and re-export and substantial gains were also made by imports from Pakistan. On the other hand the quantity of grey cloth imported from India and, to a lesser extent, from Hong Kong declined.

Similarly, the large increase in the value of imports of man-made fibre cloth – up 40 per cent – and of continuous filament yarn – up by nearly 50 per cent – concealed very much smaller increases in quantity. The quantity figures are subject to revision but in the case of man-made fibre cloth the increase in quantity was possibly less than 2 per cent.

The value of clothing imports also continued to climb although, again, much of the increase of over 40 per cent reflected substantially higher average values. And the same pattern was displayed by the export figures: large increases in value with more modest increases in quantity. The largest contributors to the growth in exports of textiles were man-made staple fibres which shot up by as much as 83 per cent in value, and carpets which were 46 per cent above the level of the first half of 1973 with Australia as the largest market. The value of exports of clothing showed rather smaller rises; 33 per cent in the value of exports of made up clothing and 24 per cent for knitted clothing.

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Earlier publication of 'New Earnings Survey, 1974'

The annual *New Earnings Survey* is now the main source of detailed information on the earnings of people employed in Great Britain. Based on a sample of employees in both manual and non-manual occupations in all kinds of jobs, it provides information not available from other regular inquiries and is now the only source of statistics of earnings of many groups of workers.

More convenient form

In order to get the full results out more speedily and in a more convenient form, a major change has been made in the arrangements for publishing the survey for 1974.

Until this year, most results have made their first appearance by instalments in a series of articles in the *Department of Employment Gazette.*

For example, the main results on earnings and hours were published in the following issues of the *Gazette.*

Averages, distributions and changes for collective agreements	October 1973
Averages, distributions and changes for industries	November 1973
Averages and distributions for regions	November 1973
Make-up of pay for agreements, industries and regions	December 1973
Averages, distributions and make-up of pay for occupations	January 1974

All these results, and many others, were then brought together in a bound volume, published much later. The bound volume for the 1973 survey, for example, was published in October 1974.

By last year, owing to the growing bulk of the material, the *Department of Employment Gazette* articles had become so massive that it had become increasingly difficult for anyone except specialists to find the figures they wanted. And some kinds of results, such as those for particular occupations, were published much later than others.

New selection

In 1974, however, there have been only minor changes in the questionnaire and this has made it possible to process a cross-section of tables at the outset. A *selection* of results, ranging over all the regular topics which were previously spread over several issues of the *Department of Employmnet Gazette* between October and February, will now be ready for publication much earlier than before, in time for the November *Department of Employment Gazette.*

This means that everyone who wants just the key figures, whether they relate to an agreement, an industry, an occupation, or a region, will know immediately where to look. The key figures will all be in the one article in the November 1974 *Department of Employment Gazette.*

Six parts

The *detailed* results, required by specialists, will still be made available at least as quickly as before, some of them much earlier – and in a more convenient form. They will come out in a series of six separate booklets, the first of which is expected to be on sale in the second half of November, even before the publication of the summary article in the *Department of Employment Gazette.*

The first part will contain results for those groups of workers whose pay is affected by particular major collective agreements or by wages councils.

The second part will appear in December and the other four in the early months of 1975. These spearate parts will include *all* the detailed results, some of which have not previously appeared until the bound volume was published several months later. They will also include the key summary results first published in the November *Department of Employment Gazette,* and analyses of annual entitlements to holidays with pay, which will be published as a separate article in the December *Department of Employment Gazette.*

Advantages

It is hoped that these new arrangements will be widely welcomed in providing the general reader with all the key results of the survey much earlier than before, in a single article in November, and in giving the specialised reader all the same detail as before, but some of it much more quickly. As usual, the 1974 tables will give cross-references to the corresponding 1973 survey tables. A binder will be on sale from HMSO, so that those who wish to bind the six separate parts together, to provide a volume like the bound volume for the 1973 survey, can do so. After all the separate parts have been published, it will also be possible to purchase complete bound sets from HMSO for libraries and reference purposes.

The price of the separate parts will be 60p per issue. The complete survey will therefore cost £3.60 net, compared with £3.25 for the 1973 bound volume. The subscription price for the complete set of six booklets, including postage, is £4 (binder extra).

Copies can be ordered from HMSO bookshops or any booksellers.

Paper and board production in the United Kingdom

		Gross production (in '000 tonnes)			Index of industrial production for paper and board (1970 = 100)	
		Total	Paper	Board	Unadjusted	Adjusted for normal seasonal fluctuations
1972		4,374	3,166	1,208	92.7	92.7
1973		4,708	3,430	1,278	99.9	99.9
1973	1st quarter	1,247	905	342	105.1	101.5
	2nd quarter	1,221	887	334	103.3	99.6
	3rd quarter	1,059	778	281	89.8	98.6
	4th quarter	1,181	860	321	101.2	99.5
1974	1st quarter	1,197	871	327	101.1	97.7
	2nd quarter	1,230	893	336	104.8	101.0
	3rd quarter	1,062	778	284	89.9	98.8
1973	September*	90.5	64.8	25.7	99.7	99.5
	October*	97.7	71.6	26.1	108.2	101.1
	November*	95.6	69.8	25.8	105.2	98.8
	December*	81.6	59.0	22.6	90.3	98.8
1974	January*	86.0	62.5	23.5	93.7	90.6
	February*	95.0	68.6	26.4	104.4	99.8
	March*	94.6	69.2	25.4	105.2	102.9
	April*	95.7	68.7	27.0	104.5	103.4
	May*	95.6	69.9	25.6	106.7	100.2
	June*	92.9	67.7	25.2	103.1	99.5
	July*	79.9	58.1	21.8	86.7	100.4
	August*	76.6	57.3	19.4	87.2	100.7
	September*	87.1	63.4	23.7	95.7	95.5

* Weekly rate during four or five week periods.

Further details on production of various grades of paper and board, together with wholesale prices and other statistical information on the paper and board industry have now been published in Business Monitor PM 481, Paper and paper-making materials, September 1974.

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Turnover of the motor trades in the third quarter of 1974

The total turnover of the motor trades in the third quarter of 1974 showed little change on the previous quarter and was 11 per cent more than in the third quarter of 1973. This increase on a year earlier is the same as that for the second quarter.

The sales of new vehicles in the third quarter of 1974 were 3 per cent less than a year earlier while sales of used vehicles showed no change over the same period. Other sales and receipts (which include sales of petrol, oil, tyres, spares and accessories, and receipts from servicing and repairs) rose by 27 per cent, reflecting price rises during the year (taking into account the introduction of value added tax on petrol and the change in the rate of value added tax).

Notes

The statistics are of turnover at current prices. Movements therefore include the effect of price changes, including changes in purchase tax before the second quarter of 1973, the introduction of VAT and car tax from the second quarter of 1973, the introduction of VAT on petrol from the second quarter of 1974, and changes in the rate of VAT. The turnover includes transactions between dealers in addition to final sales. Vehicles include commercial vehicles as well as private cars and motor cycles.

The figures are *not* seasonally adjusted.

The returns made by a voluntary panel are used to project the figures of turnover, obtained in a comprehensive inquiry to all motor traders, in a 'base year'. It is expected that more detailed quarterly statistics will be compiled when results from the comprehensive inquiry for 1972, which is being processed by the Business Statistics Office, become available.

Index numbers of turnover per quarter at current prices (including purchase tax or VAT and car tax)

Percentage change compared with a year earlier in brackets — 1967 = 100

	Total turnover	New vehicle sales	Used vehicle sales	Other sales
Turnover in 1967 (£ million)	(£4,234m)	(£1,510m)	(£766m)	(£1,958m)
1967	100	100	100	100
1968	109 (+ 9)	109 (+ 9)	105 (+ 5)	110 (+10)
1969	112 (+ 2)	105 (− 4)	102 (− 3)	120 (+ 9)
1970	126 (+13)	122 (+16)	117 (+14)	132 (+10)
1971	149 (+19)	158 (+29)	142 (+22)	146 (+11)
1972	173 (+16)	196 (+24)	159 (+12)	161 (+10)
1973	192 (+11)	216 (+10)	164 (+ 3)	184 (+14)
1968 1st qtr.	120 (+23)	139 (+37)	121 (+28)	104 (+10)
2nd qtr.	109 (+ 3)	102 (− 7)	108 (− 1)	114 (+13)
3rd qtr.	106 (+ 5)	96 (+ 2)	103 (− 3)	114 (+10)
4th qtr.	103 (+ 6)	100 (+ 6)	88 (− 2)	110 (+10)
1969 1st qtr.	111 (− 7)	113 (−19)	104 (−13)	112 (+ 8)
2nd qtr.	121 (+11)	119 (+17)	115 (+ 6)	124 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	112 (+ 6)	101 (+ 6)	101 (− 3)	124 (+ 9)
4th qtr.	102 (− 1)	88 (−12)	89 (+ 1)	119 (+ 8)
1970 1st qtr.	124 (+11)	128 (+14)	115 (+11)	123 (+10)
2nd qtr.	133 (+10)	133 (+11)	126 (+ 9)	135 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	126 (+12)	117 (+16)	116 (+16)	136 (+ 9)
4th qtr.	121 (+18)	111 (+26)	109 (+22)	134 (+13)
1971 1st qtr.	142 (+15)	155 (+21)	134 (+16)	136 (+10)
2nd qtr.	152 (+15)	160 (+21)	148 (+18)	147 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	157 (+25)	164 (+40)	153 (+31)	153 (+13)
4th qtr.	146 (+21)	152 (+36)	133 (+22)	147 (+10)
1972 1st qtr.	166 (+17)	190 (+23)	158 (+18)	151 (+11)
2nd qtr.	182 (+20)	213 (+33)	169 (+14)	162 (+10)
3rd qtr.	176 (+12)	194 (+18)	161 (+ 5)	168 (+10)
4th qtr.	170 (+16)	187 (+23)	149 (+12)	165 (+12)
1973 1st qtr.	204 (+23)	251 (+32)	187 (+19)	175 (+16)
2nd qtr.	193 (+ 6)	220 (+ 3)	168 (− 1)	182 (+12)
3rd qtr.	195 (+11)	215 (+11)	170 (+ 6)	189 (+12)
4th qtr.	175 (+ 3)	177 (− 6)	132 (−11)	190 (+15)
1974 1st qtr.	186 (− 9)	203 (−19)	135 (−28)	194 (+11)
2nd qtr.	215 (+11)	229 (+ 4)	172 (+ 2)	221 (+22)
3rd qtr.	216 (+11)	209 (− 3)	171 (−)	240 (+27)

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842.

Steel consumption and stocks in the third quarter

Consumption of steel

Consumption of finished steel in the third quarter of 1974 is provisionally estimated to have been 4,243,000 tonnes (5,829,000 tonnes ingot equivalent) after seasonal adjustment, 7½ per cent lower than in the previous quarter. The path of consumption during 1974 though distorted by the consequences of three-day working, would seem to indicate a continuing decline in consumption since the peak in the fourth quarter of 1973.

Stocks

Stocks of steel held by merchants and consumers are estimated, after adjustment for seasonal factors, to have fallen by 99,500 tonnes (136,600 tonnes ingot equivalent) during the third quarter, of 1974. Expressed in terms of the quarterly rate of consumption, however, stocks remain exceptionally high, at over 17½ weeks use.

Finished steel: estimated UK consumption

NB All quantities are expressed in metric units (1 imperial ton = 1.016 tonnes)

	Actual consumption				Seasonally adjusted consumption thousand tonnes	
	Thousand tonnes		Per cent change over previous year			
	(a)		(a)		(a)	
1968 1st quarter	4,246		+ 4.5		4,078	
2nd quarter	4,299		+ 3.6		4,146	
3rd quarter	3,992		+13.2		4,308	
4th quarter	4,298		+ 4.9		4,303	
Total	16,835		+ 6.3			
1969 1st quarter	4,608		+ 8.5		4,434	
2nd quarter	4,685		+ 9.0		4,525	
3rd quarter	4,087		+ 2.4		4,419	
4th quarter	4,402		+ 2.4		4,404	
Total	17,782		+ 5.6			
1970 1st quarter	4,627		+ 0.4		4,514	
2nd quarter	4,582		− 2.2		4,364	
3rd quarter*	4,132		+ 1.1		4,463	
4th quarter	4,296		− 2.4		4,296	
Total	17,637		− 0.8			
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
1971 1st quarter	4,660	4,696	+0.7		4,488	4,520
2nd quarter	4,318	4,303	−5.8		4,172	4,158
3rd quarter	3,801	3,763	−8.0		4,108	4,067
4th quarter	4,022	3,960	−6.4		4,033	3,977
Total	16,801	16,722	−4.7			
1972 1st quarter		4,029		−14.2		3,933
2nd quarter		4,246		− 1.3		4,043
3rd quarter		3,958		+ 5.2		4,275
4th quarter		4,517		+14.1		4,499
Total		16,750		+ 0.2		
1973 1st quarter		4,909		+21.8		4,667
2nd quarter		4,498		+ 5.9		4,368
3rd quarter		4,253		+ 7.5		4,599
4th quarter		4,785		+ 5.9		4,811
Total		18,445		+10.1		
1974 1st quarter		4,579		− 6.7		4,358
2nd quarter		4,723		+ 5.0		4,590
3rd quarter		3,924		− 7.7		4,243

* 14-week statistical period: figures reduced to a 13-week basis for purposes of comparability.

p provisional.

(a) excluding welded tubes over 16 in. outer diameter.

(b) including welded tubes over 16 in. outer diameter.

Business Monitor

The following titles and issues of Business Monitors are now available:

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PQ 367	Radio, radar and electronic capital goods for second quarter 1974
PQ 368	Electrical appliances primarily for domestic use for second quarter 1974
PQ 370	Ship and boat building, repairing and marine engineering for first quarter 1974
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PQ 393	Bolts, nuts, screws, rivets, etc., for second quarter 1974
PQ 399.1	Metal furniture for second quarter 1974
PQ 399.12	Miscellaneous metal goods for second quarter 1974
PQ 417.1	Hosiery and other knitted goods for second quarter 1974
PQ 441	Weatherproof outerwear for second quarter 1974
PQ 469.2	Miscellaneous building materials and mineral products for second quarter 1974
PQ 471	Timber (sawmilling, etc., and builders' woodwork) for second quarter 1974
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Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request (tel. 01-215 3038) or the Department's Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633-56111, ext. 2973, telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of titles of Business Monitors is available on application.

Inquiries about the distribution of Business Monitors may be made to the Business Statistics Office (ext. 2700) whose address and telephone number appear above.

British Film Fund Agency returns

The British Film Fund Agency has authorised the publication of the following information for the four weeks ended 28 September 1974.

Distributors' earnings submitted	£
Low cost films:	
Eligible (after multiplying by 2½)	40,686
Not eligible for 2½ times rental	67,572
	108,258
High cost films (including newsreels after multiplying by 2½)	439,199
	547,457
Films under 3,000 ft. (after multiplying by 2½)	74,483
	621,940
Levy collections paid to the Agency by HM Customs and Excise to 22 October 1974 approximately covering entertainments for the four weeks ended 28 September 1974	475,880

The Eleventh Interim Allocation for the seventeenth year will be at the rate of 79 per cent.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 15 November 1974.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Skyhawk	BR/E 37784/17/11/79	88	11 November	Cathay Films Ltd.	Golden Harvest (HK) Ltd.
Kung Fu Girl	BR/E 37785/17/11/79	82	12 November	Cathay Films Ltd.	Golden Harvest (HK) Ltd.
You, Your Pets And Neighbours	BR/E 37786/17/11/79	16	13 November	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Anvil Film and Recording Group Ltd.
Charley-One-Eye	BR/E 37787/17/11/79	94	14 November	Saga Films Ltd.	David Paradine Films Ltd.
Sam Haskins	BR/E 37788/17/11/79	27	14 November	New Realm Distributors Ltd.	Oppidan Film Productions Ltd.
Movietone News 2371	BR/E 37588/17/11/79	7	15 November	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2371A	BR/E 37589/17/11/79	7	15 November	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
The Spirit Of The Beehive	F 37782	98	11 November	Contemporary Films Ltd.	Querejeta Productions, Spain
The Amazons	F 37783	88	11 November	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Monteluce Film SpA, Rome
The Killer Likes Candy	F 37789	89	14 November	Saga Films Ltd.	Omnia Films, Munich
Drummer Of Vengeance	F 37790	83	14 November	Saga Films Ltd.	Barrington Film Productions, London

Amendments to the Register:
The registration number of the film 'The Life Of Anton Bruckner' registered on 21 October 1974, has been amended to EC 37742/27/10/79 and the maker's name to read Film- und Fernsehproduktion, Dr. Hans Conrad Fischer, 8241 Harktschellenberg/obb, West Germany.
The title of the film 'The Over Amorous Artist' registered on 3 July 1974, has been amended to 'Just One More Time.'

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	30 May 1974
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	This week
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	31 Oct. 1974
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	7 Mar. 1974
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	3 Oct. 1974
Catering trades turnover (M)	14 Nov. 1974
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	14 Nov. 1974
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	12 Sept. 1974
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	24 Oct. 1974
N. Ireland (M)	24 Oct. 1974
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
Energy trends (M)	7 Nov. 1974
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry:	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	This week
cinema admissions and takings (M)	14 Nov. 1974
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registration of films (A)	31 Jan. 1974
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	5 Sept. 1974
household consumption (Q)	14 Nov. 1974
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	5 Sept. 1974
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	10 Oct. 1974
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	14 Nov. 1974
Hire-purchase business (M)	7 Nov. 1974
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	This week
N. Ireland index (M)	This week
Wales index (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	10 Oct. 1974
investment and earnings overseas (A)	13 June 1974
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	7 Nov. 1974
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	5 Sept. 1974
production (M)	31 Oct. 1974
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	5 Sept. 1974
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	31 Oct. 1974
estimated figures (M)	14 Nov. 1974
motor trade turnover (Q)	This week
Office development permits (Q)	31 Oct. 1974
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	27 June 1974
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	14 Nov. 1974
value: analysis of trends (Q)	26 Sept. 1974
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	This week
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	This week
Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	7 Nov. 1974
provisional figures (M)	14 Nov. 1974
sales, N. Ireland (M)	This week
stocks (M)	This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	27 June 1974
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	6 Dec. 1973
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	This week
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	3 Oct. 1974
retail (M)	This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	This week
carpet sales (M)	19 Sept. 1974
cotton industry production (M)	14 Nov. 1974
hosiery production (M)	19 Sept. 1974
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	31 Oct. 1974
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	24 Oct. 1974
wool exports (Q)	26 Sept. 1974
wool output (M)	14 Nov. 1974
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	7 Nov. 1974
overseas travel and tourism (A)	21 Feb. 1974
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	This week

Department organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	3 Oct. 1974
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	7 Nov. 1974
ECGD local offices	7 Nov. 1974
Guide to Departments	5 Sept. 1974
Official Receivers' offices	24 Oct. 1974
Programme of trade promotions	17 Oct. 1974
Release dates of economic statistics	24 Oct. 1974

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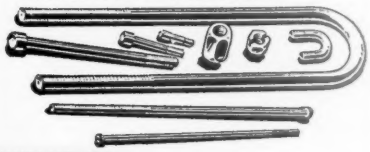

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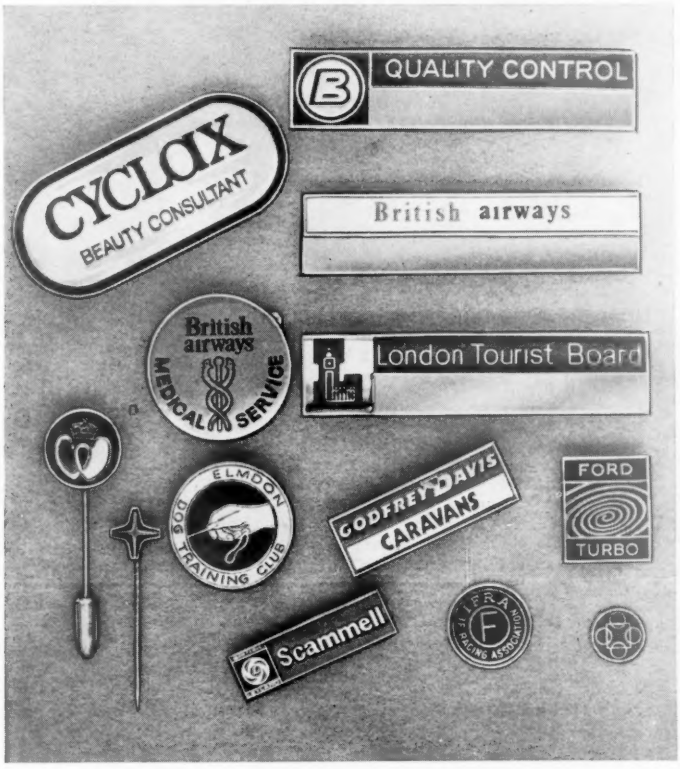

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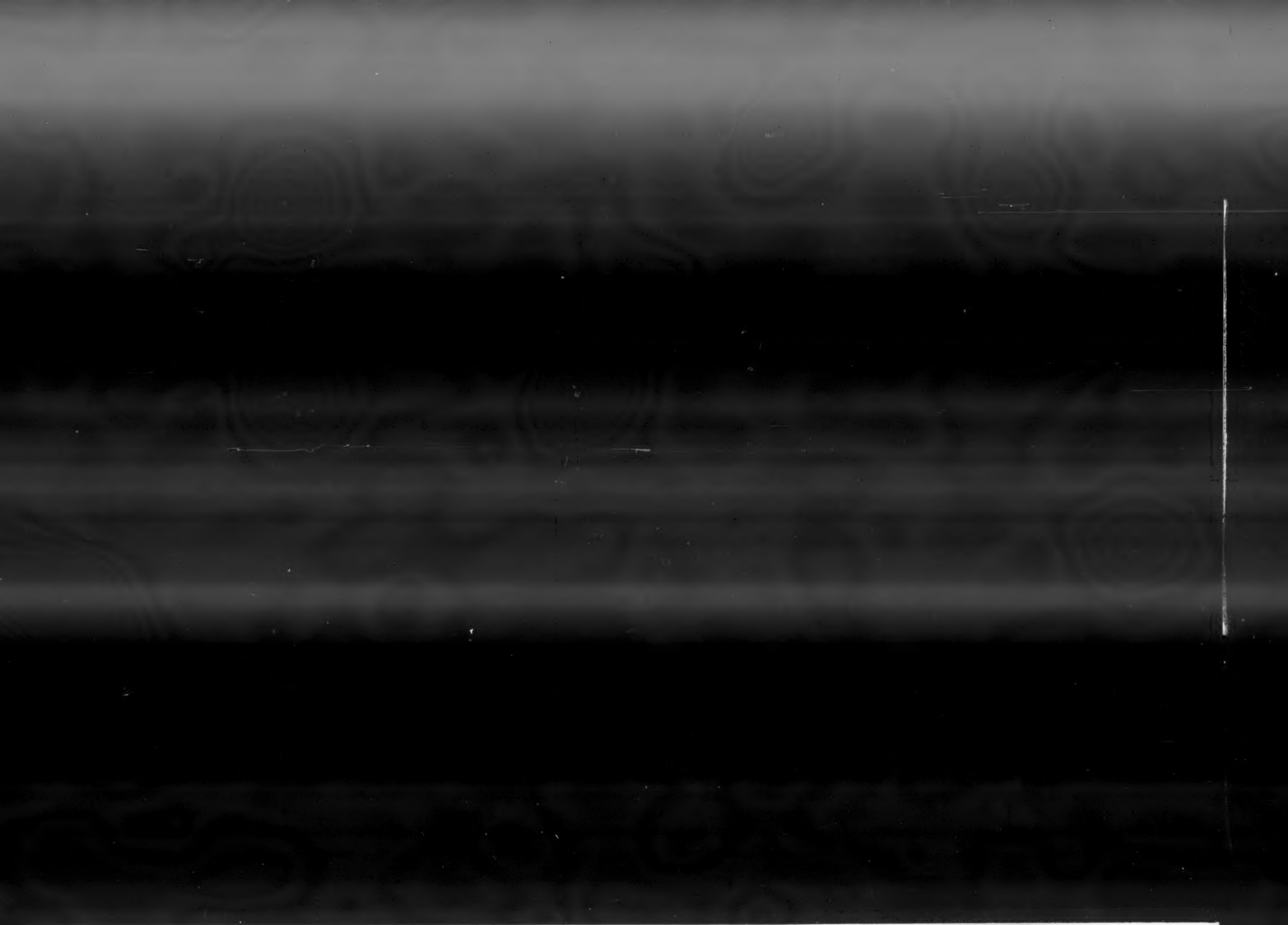
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